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Presbyterian Church in the
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Minutes of the General
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MINUTES

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

FROM A. D. 1838 TO A. D. 1858, INCLUSIVE.

New School Branch
Vol. I

NEW YORK:
PUBLISHED BY THE STATED CLERKS, 1838–1858.
[ERSKINE MASON, D. D., AND E. F. HATFIELD, D. D.]
PHILADELPHIA:
REPRINTED, PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION AND SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK.
1894.

PREFACE.

THIS volume of the *Minutes* of the General Assembly is published under the following authorization:

The General Assembly (*Minutes*, 1884, p. 121) appointed "The Stated and Permanent Clerks a Committee to report to the next General Assembly upon the advisability of reprinting any or all of the Minutes of the General Assembly between the years 1836 and 1869, said Committee to serve without expense to the Assembly."

The Committee reported progress (*Minutes*, 1885, p. 684), recommending, *inter alia*, "that the expense of this republication be borne by the Board of Publication, and that the number of copies to be issued be left to the judgment of the Committee to be appointed to take charge of the matter."

The report was adopted, and the Assembly directed that the Stated and Permanent Clerks be the Committee to have charge of the printing of said Minutes. The Committee was continued by the several Assemblies from 1886 to 1893.

The plan of publication adopted is the following: The Minutes for 1836 and 1837 have been added to the volume already published, covering the period from 1821 to 1835, thus making complete the Minutes of the supreme judicatories of the Church from 1705 to 1837, the year preceding the division; the Minutes of the Old School General Assembly from 1838 to 1869 have been published in four volumes, and the Minutes of the New School General Assembly, for the same period, in two volumes, thus completing the republication of the Minutes from 1705 to 1869.

This is the first volume of the New School Minutes.

Acknowledgment is hereby made of the cordial co-operation and efficient service, rendered in the whole undertaking by the Officers of and the Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work.

WM. H. ROBERTS,
WM. E. MOORE.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

1838.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the Seventh Presbyterian church in the city of Philadelphia, on the third Thursday [17] of May, 1838, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. David Elliot, D. D., Moderator of the last Assembly, from Isa. 60 : 1 : "Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee."

After public worship, the Moderator of the last Assembly announced from the desk, that, immediately after the benediction, the Moderator would take the chair on the floor of the church, and the Assembly would then be constituted.

After the benediction, the Moderator of the last Assembly took the chair and opened the meeting with prayer.

The Rev. William Patton, D. D., from the third Presbytery of New York, then rose, and asked leave to offer the following preamble and resolutions:

"*Whereas*, The General Assembly of 1837 adopted certain resolutions intended to deprive certain Presbyteries of the right to be represented in the General Assembly;—and *whereas*, the more fully to accomplish their purpose, the said Assembly of 1837 did require and receive from their Clerks a pledge or promise, that they would, in making out the Roll of Commissioners to constitute the General Assembly of 1838, omit to insert therein the names of Commissioners from said Presbyteries;—and *whereas*, the said Clerks, having been requested by Commissioners from the said Presbyteries to receive their Commissions and enter their names on the Roll of the General Assembly of 1838, now about to be organized, have refused to receive and enter the same;—therefore,

"1. *Resolved*, That such attempts on the part of the General Assembly of 1837, and their Clerks, to direct and control the organization of the General Assembly of 1838, are unconstitutional, and in derogation of its just rights as the general representative judicatory of the whole Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

"2. *Resolved*, That the General Assembly cannot be legally constituted except by admitting to seats and to equality of powers, in the first instance, all Commissioners, who present the usual evidences of their appointment; and that it is the duty of the Clerks, and they are hereby directed, to form the Roll of the General Assembly of 1838, by including therein the names of all Commissioners from Presbyteries belonging to the said Presbyterian Church, not omitting the Commissioners from the several Presbyteries within the bounds of the Synods of Utica, Geneva, Genesee, and the Western Reserve, and in all things to form the said Roll according to the known practice and established usage of previous General Assemblies."

The Moderator declared him to be out of order, and refused to allow them to be read. Dr. Patton then stated that he was very desirous to have them

put and passed upon without remark or debate. The Moderator again [636] declared them out of order, as the next business was the report of the Clerks upon the Roll. Dr. Patton then appealed from the decision of the chair. The appeal was seconded, and the Moderator declared the appeal to be out of order, and refused to put it, and directed the Clerk to make his report upon the Roll. Dr. Patton then declared to the Moderator that the paper he wished read had relation to forming the Roll. The Moderator then stated that he was out of order, as the Clerk was on the floor; whereupon the Moderator was reminded by Dr. Patton that he had the floor before the Clerk. The Moderator directed the Clerk to proceed with the report on the Roll, and Dr. Patton thereupon took his seat.

The report of the Clerks of the last Assembly upon the Roll was then read by the Rev. John M. Krebs, one of the Clerks of the last Assembly, and was as follows:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Londonderry,	John H. Church, D. D.	
Newburyport,	D. T. Smith.	
Champlain,	Phineas Bailey,	John Boynton.
Troy,	N. S. S. Beman, D. D.,	Nicholas M. Masters.
	Samuel Speer,	
Albany,	Eliphalet Nott, D. D.,	Isaac N. Beach.
	E. D. McMasters,	
Columbia,	J. B. Waterbury,	Lawrence Vandyke,
	Augustus L. Chapin,	Frederick Tyler.
St. Lawrence.		

II. SYNOD OF NEW YORK.

Hudson,	William Blain,	William L. Mapes,
	Samuel Pelton,	Norman Judson.
North River,	Eliphalet Price,	Aaron Raymond.
Bedford,		John Owen.
New York, 1*st*,	Wm. W. Phillips, D. D.,	Hugh Auchincloss,
	Elias W. Crane,	A. G. Blauvelt.
New York, 2*d*,	Ebenezer K. Maxwell,	Henry Rankin.
New York, 3*d*,	William Patton, D. D.,	Daniel Pierson,
	Erskine Mason, D. D.,	R. M. Hartley.
Long Island,	Ralph Smith.	
Long Island, 2*d*,	James McDougall,	John Everett.

III. SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

Newark,	Samuel Fisher, D. D.,	O. Woodruff,
	Wm. R. Weeks, D. D.,	Israel Crane.
Elizabethtown,	James M. Hunting,	James Bower,
	Lewis Bond,	Robert Anderson.
New Brunswick,	Eli F. Cooley,	D. W. Vail,
	John McLean,	Wm. Wilson.
Newton,	John Gray,	Peter Thomson,
	J. Campbell, D. D.,	Wm. Long.
Susquehanna,	E. H. Snowden,	H. C. Anhauser. [637]
Montrose,		Isaac P. Foster.

*The number following the year is that of the page of the original minutes. The beginning of each page of the original Minutes is indicated in the text thus, [636].

IV. SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Philadelphia,	Ashbel Green, D. D.,	Alex. Symington,
	William Latta,	A. W. Mitchell.
Philadelphia, 2d,	William J. Gibson,	Robert Wallace.
Newcastle,	William Finney,	John Robinson.
	Lindley C. Rutter,	
Wilmington,	E. W. Gilbert,	Willard Hall.
Lewes,		S. K. Wilson.
Baltimore,	Robert J. Breckinridge,	George Morris.
Carlisle,	John Moody,	John Clendenin,
	N. G. White,	Alex. McCoy.
Huntingdon,	Joshua Moore,	Wm. Smyth.
Northumberland,	S. S. Sheddan,	Richard Matchin.

V. SYNOD OF PITTSBURG.

Blairsville,	Samuel Swan,	Smith Agnew.
Redstone,	C. B. Bristol,	Dr. H. Campbell.
Washington,	John Stockton,	James Lee.
Ohio,	David Elliot, D. D.,	Hon. H. Denny,
	Thomas D. Baird,	W. H. Lowrie.
Alleghany,	S. Caldwell,	Benj. Junkin.
Steubenville,	C. C. Beattie,	H. H. Leavitt.
Beaver,	A. O. Patterson,	John Clarke.
Erie,	Pierce Chamberlain,	George Kellogg.

VI. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

Detroit,	John P. Cleaveland.	
Monroe,	Erastus N. Nichols,	Samuel G. Conklin.
St. Joseph,	Silas Woodbury,	A. G. Hammond.

VII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

Athens,	Luther G. Bingham,	Marcus Bosworth.
Columbus,	James Hoge, D. D.,	John Entrekin.
Lancaster,	James Culbertson, D. D.,	John C. Stockton.
Wooster,	Joseph S. Wylie,	John Elliot.
Richland,	Henry Hervey.	
Marion,	Henry Van Deman,	S. G. Strong.

VIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

Chillicothe,	Samuel Crothers,	Richard Long.
Miami,	John L. Bellville.	
Cincinnati,	Lyman Beecher, D. D.,	Dr. George L. Weed,
	Baxter Dickinson,	John Q. A. Bassett.
Oxford,	Robert Irwin,	John Molyneaux.
Sidney,	Samuel Cleland,	John Ewing.

IX. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

Vincennes,	Matthew G. Wallace,	John Lagow.	
Madison,	Wm. G. Matthews,	Victor King.	[638]
Crawfordsville,	Samuel G. Lowry,	John S. Jennings.	
Indianapolis,	William Sickles,	Wm. M. Tate.	
Logansport,	Alex. T. Rankin.		

X. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Illinois,	Edward Beecher,	A. H. Burritt.
Kaskaskia,	Benjamin F. Spillman,	W. A. G. Posey.
Sangamon,	Cyrus L. Watson,	Joseph Young.
Ottawa,	John Blatchford.	
Schuyler,	Samuel Wilson.	
Peoria,	Flavel Bascom,	Charles Barrows.
Alton,	Albert Hall.	

XI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

St. Louis,		James M. Covington.
St. Charles,		Alex. J. Dallas.

XII. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

Louisville,	James Hawthorn,	John Bemiss, M. D.
Muhlenburg,	John Lyle.	
Transylvania.		
West Lexington,	Robert Davidson,	Samuel M. Wallace.
Ebenezer,	R. C. Grundy,	Thomas H. Poage.

XIII. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

Lexington,	John D. Ewing,	James McNutt,
	James C. Wilson,	Wm. A. Bell.
Winchester,	S. B. Wilson, D. D.,	James H. Fitzgerald.
Dist. of Columbia,	William Hill, D. D.,	Robert Jamieson.
West Hanover,	George A. Baxter, D. D.,	Samuel McCorkle,
	Andrew Hart,	P. C. Venable, M. D.
East Hanover,	Wm. S. Plumer,	Wm. Maxwell.

XIV. SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Roanoke,	Wm. McPheeters, D. D.,	Thomas H. Willie.
Orange,	N. H. Harding,	Richard J. Smith.
Fayetteville,	Wm. N. Peacock,	Alex. Martin.
Concord,	Samuel Williamson,	W. L. Davidson,
	John Williamson,	Wm. King.
Morgantown,	Albertus L. Watts.	

XV. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

Abingdon,	Daniel H. Hoge.		
Union,	J. E. Montgomery,	Walter M. McGill,	
	Levi R. Morrison,	Andrew Early.	
French Broad,	Gideon S. White,	William Dick.	
Holston,	Daniel Rogan,	John Patton.	[639]

XVI. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

West Tennessee,	Thomas F. Scott.	
Nashville,	Robert A. Lapsley,	James C. Robinson.
Shiloh,	Wm. Eagleton.	
North Alabama,	James O. Stedman,	Thomas Childress.
Western District,	Samuel Hodge,	John Ingram, M. D.

XVII. SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
South Carolina,	Hugh Dickson,	Alex. Chambers.
Bethel,	J. L. R. Davies,	John M. Doley.
Harmony,	J. Witherspoon, D. D.,	Lawrence Prince.
Charleston Union,	Elipha White,	
	Thomas Magruder.	
Georgia,	Horace S. Pratt,	Ebenezer S. Rees.
Hopewell,	Samuel S. Davis,	William Shear.
Flint River,	John S. Wilson,	David C. Campbell.

XVIII. SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

South Alabama,	Robert Nall.	
Tuscaloosa,	Joseph B. Adams,	James Knox.
Tombeckbee,	Samuel Hind,	Eli Neely.

XIX. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

Mississippi,	Samuel B. Jones,	John Chamberlain.
Clinton,	A. C. Dickerson,	Wm. M. Murdock.
Arkansas.		
Louisiana,	John L. Montgomery,	James Cooper.

The reading of the report being finished, the Moderator announced that, if there were Commissioners from any Presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church who had not been enrolled, then was the proper time to make application to have their names put upon the Roll.

Thereupon the Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., from the third Presbytery of New York, rose and offered the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Roll be now completed by adding the names of all Commissioners now present from the several Presbyteries within the bounds of the Synods of Utica, Geneva, Genessee, and the Western Reserve,"

And stated that the Commissioners from the Presbyteries therein named had offered their Commissions to the Clerks, who had refused to receive them. The Moderator asked Dr. Mason if they were from Presbyteries connected with the Assembly of 1837 at the close of its session. Dr. Mason replied that they were from Presbyteries within the bounds of the Synods of Utica, Geneva, Genessee, and the Western Reserve. The Moderator then stated that they could not be received. Dr. Mason then formally tendered the Commissions of Commissioners from

THE PRESBYTERIES OF	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Lorain,	Daniel W. Lathrop,	Henry Brown.
Geneva,	Wm. L. Strong,	Zenas Wheeler,
	Miles P. Squier,	Wm. B. Cook. [640]
Genessee,	Erastus J. Gillett,	Augustus P. Hascall.
	Wm. Bridgman,	
Oneida,	Horace P. Boque,	
	Joseph Myers.	
Angelica,	Asa J. Allen,	Thomson Bell.
Maumee,	J. H. Francis,	Levi Beebe.
Watertown,	Isaac Brayton,	Jason Clark.
Portage,	George E. Pierce,	
	Sherman B. Canfield.	

THE PRESBYTERIES OF	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Cayuga,		Salem Town,
		Joseph Esty.
Ontario,	Silas C. Brown,	Hiram Ashley.
Rochester,	Tryon Edwards,	George A. Avery.
	A. G. Hall.	
Delaware,	Daniel Waterbury,	D. Penfield.
Otsego,	Joseph W. Paddock,	David H. Little.
Trumbull,	Selden Haynes,	M. Messer.
Onondaga,	Hutchins Taylor.	
Chemung,	John Frost.	
Huron,	E. P. Salmon.	
Buffalo,	Asa T. Hopkins,	Jabez Goodell,
	George R. Rudd,	Horace Allen.
Grand River,	Ferris Fitch.	
Niagara,	Herman Halsey.	
Cortland,	Joseph R. Johnson.	
Chenango,	John B. Hoyt,	Frederick Hotchkiss.
Cleveland,	Samuel C. Aikin,	Stephen Whitaker.
Bath,	E. Everett,	Daniel S. Benton.
Tioga,	J. A. Nash,	Elias Hawley.

And demanded that they be put upon the Roll. The resolution was seconded. The Moderator declared it out of order. Dr. Mason then said that, with the greatest respect for the chair, he must appeal from that decision. The appeal was seconded. The Moderator declared the appeal out of order, and refused to put it.

The Rev. Miles P. Squier, from the Presbytery of Geneva, then rose and addressed the Chair, stating that he had a Commission from the Presbytery of Geneva, which he had presented to the Clerks, who refused to receive it, and he demanded his right to his seat and required his name to be enrolled. The Moderator asked him if the Presbytery of Geneva was within the Synod of Geneva. Mr. Squier replied that it was within the bounds of the Synod of Geneva. The Moderator then said, "We do not know you," and refused the demand, declaring it out of order.

These repeated refusals of the Moderator and Clerks of the General Assembly of 1837 to perform the duties of their respective offices in the organization of the General Assembly of 1838 till its own officers should be appointed, thus impeding the constitutional progress of business, the Rev. John P. Cleaveland, of the Presbytery of Detroit, rose and stated in substance as follows:—that as the Commissioners to the General Assembly for 1838, from a large number of Presbyteries, had been refused their seats, and as we had been advised by counsel learned in the law, that a constitutional organization of the Assembly must be secured at this time and in this place, he trusted it would not be considered as an act of discourtesy, [641] but merely as a matter of necessity, if we now proceed to organize the General Assembly for 1838, in the fewest words, the shortest time, and with the least interruption practicable. He therefore moved that Dr. Beman, from the Presbytery of Troy, be Moderator to preside till a new Moderator be chosen. The motion was seconded by the Rev. Baxter Dickinson, from the Presbytery of Cincinnati, and, no other person being nominated, the Rev. Dr. Beman was unanimously appointed such Moderator.

It was then moved and seconded that the Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., from the third Presbytery of New York, and the Rev. E. W. Gilbert, from the

Presbytery of Wilmington, be Clerks *pro tempore;* and, no other persons being put in nomination, they were unanimously appointed.

The following is the Roll of the General Assembly as completed by the Clerks:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Londonderry,	John H. Church, D. D., E. P. Bradford.	
Newburyport,	D. T. Smith.	
Champlain,	Phineas Bailey.	
Troy,	N. S. S. Beman, D. D., Samuel Speer,	Nicholas M. Masters.
Albany,	Eliphalet Nott, D. D., E. D. McMasters,	Isaac N. Beach.
Columbia,	J B. Waterbury, Augustus L. Chapin,	Lawrence Vandyke, Frederick Tyler.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

St. Lawrence.		
Watertown,	Isaac Brayton,	Jason Clark.
Oswego.		
Oneida,	Horace P. Bogue, Joseph Myers.	
Otsego,	Joseph W. Paddock,	D. H. Little.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

Geneva,	Miles P. Squier, Wm. L. Strong,	Wm. D. Cook, Zenas Wheeler.
Chenango,	John B. Hoyt.	Frederick Hotchkiss.
Onondaga,	Hutchins Taylor.	
Cayuga,		Joseph Esty, Salem Town.
Tioga,	J. A. Nash,	Elias Hawley.
Cortland,	J. R. Johnson.	
Bath,	E. Everett,	Daniel S. Benton.
Delaware,	D. Waterbury,	D. Penfield.
Chemung,	John Frost.	

IV. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

Genesee,	Wm. Bridgeman, E. J. Gillett,	Augustus P. Hascall.
Ontario,	Silas C. Brown,	Hiram Ashley. [642]
Rochester,	Tryon Edwards, A. G. Hall,	George A. Avery.
Niagara,	Herman Halsey.	
Buffalo,	A. T. Hopkins. George R. Rudd,	Jabez Goodell, Horace Allen.
Angelica,	Asa S. Allen,	Thomson Bell.

V. SYNOD OF NEW YORK.

Hudson,	William Blain, Samuel Pelton,	William L. Mapes, Norman Judson.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
North River,	Eliphalet Price,	Aaron Raymond.
Bedford,		John Owen.
New York, 1*st*,	Wm. W. Phillips, D. D.,	Hugh Auchincloss,
	Elias W. Crane,	A. G. Blauvelt.
New York, 2*d*,	Ebenezer K. Maxwell,	Henry Rankin.
New York, 3*d*,	William Patton, D. D.,	Daniel Pierson,
	Erskine Mason, D. D.,	R. M. Hartley.
Long Island,	Ralph Smith.	
Long Island, 2*d*,	James McDougall,	John Everett.
	VI. SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.	
Newark,	Samuel Fisher, D. D.,	O. Woodruff,
	Wm. R. Weeks, D. D.,	Israel Crane.
Elizabethtown,	James M. Hunting,	James Bower,
	Lewis Bond,	Robert Anderson.
New Brunswick,	Eli F. Cooley,	D. W. Vail,
	John McLean,	Wm. Wilson.
Newton,	John Gray,	Peter Thomson,
	J. Campbell, D. D.,	Wm. Long.
Susquehanna,	E. H. Snowden,	H. C. Anhauser.
Montrose,		Isaac P. Foster.
	VII. SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.	
Philadelphia,	Ashbel Green, D. D.,	Alex. Symington,
	William Latta,	A. W. Mitchell, M. D.
Philadelphia, 2*d*,	William J. Gibson,	Robert Wallace.
Newcastle,	William Finney,	John Robinson.
	Lindley C. Rutter,	
Wilmington,	E. W. Gilbert,	Willard Hall.
Lewes,		S. K. Wilson.
Baltimore,	Robert J. Breckinridge,	George Morris.
Carlisle,	John Moody,	John Clendenin,
	N. G. White,	Alex. McCoy.
Huntingdon,	Joshua Moore,	Wm. Smyth.
Northumberland,	S. S. Sheddan,	Richard Matchin.
	VIII. SYNOD OF PITTSBURG.	
Blairsville,	Samuel Swan,	Smith Agnew.
Redstone,	C. B. Bristol,	Dr. H. Campbell.
Washington,	John Stockton,	James Lee. [643]
Ohio,	David Elliot, D. D.,	Hon. H. Denny,
	Thomas D. Baird,	W. H. Lowrie.
Alleghany,	S. Caldwell,	Benj. Junkin.
Steubenville,	C. C. Beattie,	H. H. Leavitt.
Beaver,	A. O. Patterson,	John Clarke.
Erie,	Pierce Chamberlain,	George Kellogg.
	IX. WESTERN RESERVE.	
Grand River,	Ferris Fitch.	
Portage,	George E. Pierce,	
	Sherman B. Canfield.	
Huron,	E. P. Salmon.	

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Maumee,	J. H. Francis,	Levi Beebe.
Trumbull,	S. Haynes,	Moses Messer.
Lorain,	Daniel W. Lathrop,	Henry Brown.
Cleveland,	S. C. Aikin,	Stephen Whitaker.
	X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.	
Detroit,	John P. Cleaveland.	
Monroe,	Erastus N. Nichols,	Henry Disbrow.
St. Josephs,	Silas Woodbury,	A. G. Hammond.
	XI. SYNOD OF OHIO.	
Athens,	Luther G. Bingham,	Marcus Bosworth.
Columbus,	James Hoge, D.D.,	John Entrekin.
Lancaster,	James Culbertson, D. D.,	John C. Stockton.
Wooster,	Joseph S. Wiley,	John Elliott.
Richland,	Henry Hervey.	
Marion,	Henry Vandeman,	S. G. Strong.
	XII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.	
Cincinnati,	Lyman Beecher, D. D.,	Dr. George L. Weed,
	Baxter Dickinson,	John Q. A. Bassett.
Chilicothe,	Samuel Crothers,	Richard Long.
Miami,	John L. Bellville.	
Oxford,	Robert Irwin,	John Molyneaux.
Sidney,	Samuel Cleland,	John Ewing.
	XIII. SYNOD OF INDIANA.	
Salem,	Wm. W. Martin,	Henry L. Fabrigue.
Vincennes,	Matthew G. Wallace,	John Lagow.
Madison,	Wm. C. Matthews,	Victor King.
Crawfordsville,	Samuel G. Lowry,	John S. Jennings.
Indianapolis,	William Sickels,	Dr. Wm. M. Tate.
Logansport,	Alex. T. Rankin.	
	XIV. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.	
Illinois,	Edward Beecher,	A. H. Burritt.
Kaskaskia,	Benjamin F. Spillman,	W. A. G. Posey. [644]
Sangamon,	Cyrus L. Watson,	Joseph Young.
Ottawa,	John Blatchford.	
Schuyler,	Samuel Wilson.	
Palestine.		
Peoria,	Flavel Bascom,	Charles Barrows.
Alton,	Albert Hall.	
	XV. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.	
Missouri.		
St. Louis,		James M. Covington.
St. Charles,		Alex. J. Dallas.
	XVI. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.	
Louisville,	James Hawthorn,	John Bemis, M. D.
Muhlenburg,	John Lysle.	

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Transylvania.		
West Lexington,	Robert Davidson,	Samuel M. Wallace.
Ebenezer,	R. C. Grundy,	Thomas H. Poage.
	XVII. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.	
Lexington,	John D. Ewing,	James McNutt,
	James C. Wilson,	Wm. A. Bell.
Winchester,	S. B. Wilson, D. D.,	James H. Fitzgerald.
Dist. of Columbia,	William Hill, D. D.,	Robert Jamieson.
West Hanover,	George A. Baxter, D. D.,	Samuel McCorkle,
	Andrew Hart,	P. C. Venable, M. D.
East Hanover,	Wm. S. Plumer,	Wm Maxwell.
	XVIII. SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.	
Roanoke,	Wm. McPheeters, D. D.,	Thomas H. Willie.
Orange,	N. H. Harding,	Richard J. Smith.
Fayetteville,	Wm. N. Peacock,	Alex. Martin.
Concord,	Samuel Williamson,	W. L. Davidson,
	John Williamson,	Wm. King.
Morgantown,	Albertus L. Watts.	
	XIX. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.	
Abingdon,	Daniel H. Hoge.	
Union,	J. E. Montgomery,	Walter M. McGill,
	Levi R. Morrison,	Andrew Early.
French Broad,	Gideon S. White,	William Dick.
Holston,	Daniel Rogan,	John Patton.
	XX. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.	
West Tennessee,	Thomas F. Scott.	
Nashville,	Robert A. Lapsley,	James C. Robinson.
Shiloh,	Wm. Eagleton.	
North Alabama,	James O. Stedman,	Thomas Childress.
Western District,	Samuel Hodge,	John Ingram, M. D. [645]
	XXI. SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.	
South Carolina,	Hugh Dickson,	Alex. Chambers.
Bethel,	J. Le Roy Davies,	John M. Doby.
Harmony,	J. Witherspoon, D. D.,	Lawrence Prince.
Charleston Union,	Elipha White,	S. Glover,
	Thomas Magruder,	Robert L. Stewart.
Georgia,	Horace S. Pratt,	Ebenezer S. Reese.
Hopewell,	Samuel S. Davis,	William Shear.
Flint River,	John S. Wilson,	David C. Campbell.
	XXII. SYNOD OF ALABAMA.	
South Alabama,	Robert Nall.	
Tuscaloosa,	Joseph B. Adams,	James Knox.
Tombeckbee,	Samuel Hurd,	Eli Neely.
	XXIII. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.	
Mississippi,	Samuel B. Jones,	John Chamberlain.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Clinton,	A. C. Dickerson,	Wm. M. Murdock.
Arkansas.		
Louisiana,	John L. Montgomery,	James Cooper.

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island,	Rev. Orin Fowler.
General Association of Connecticut,	Rev. Nathaniel W. Taylor, M. D.
General Convention of Vermont,	Rev. Harvey Curtis.
General Association of New Hampshire,	Rev. Henry Wood.

The Rev. Samuel Fisher, D. D., of the Presbytery of Newark, was nominated as Moderator of the General Assembly, and no other person being put in nomination, he was chosen by a very large majority. The Rev. Dr. Beman thereupon announced to Dr. Fisher that he was duly elected the Moderator of the General Assembly; and on leaving the chair, informed him that he was to be governed in his office by the rules of the General Assembly hereafter to be adopted.

The Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., was then chosen Stated Clerk, and the Rev. E. W. Gilbert Permanent Clerk of the General Assembly.

The following notice had been previously delivered to the Rev. Dr. Beman:

"Resolution of the Trustees of the Seventh Presbyterian Church, adopted May 7th, 1838:

"*Resolved*, That the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, which is to convene in Philadelphia on the 17th inst. and which shall be organized under the direction of the Moderator, and Clerks, officiating during the meeting of the last Assembly, shall have the use of the Seventh Presbyterian Church during their sessions, to the exclusion of every other Assembly or Convention which may be organized during the same period of time.

(Signed) "JAMES SCHOTT,

"President of the Board of Trustees." [646]

It was moved and seconded that the General Assembly now adjourn, to meet forthwith in the Lecture Room of the First Presbyterian Church in this city. The motion to adjourn was carried unanimously.

The Moderator then audibly announced that the General Assembly was so adjourned, and gave notice that any Commissioners who had not presented their Commissions should do so at the First Presbyterian Church.

The Assembly being again met at the Lecture Room of the First Presbyterian Church, Dr. Patton again offered his preamble and Resolutions, as follows, which were unanimously adopted:

"*Whereas* the General Assembly of 1837 adopted certain resolutions intended to deprive certain Presbyteries of the right to be represented in the General Assembly;—and *whereas*, the more fully to accomplish their purpose, the said Assembly of 1837 did require and receive from their Clerks a pledge or promise, that they would, in making out the Roll of Commissioners to constitute the General Assembly of 1838, omit to insert therein the names of Commissioners from said Presbyteries;—and *whereas* the said Clerks, having been requested by Commissioners from the said Presbyteries to receive their Commissions and enter their names on the Roll of the General Assembly of 1838, now about to be organized, have refused to receive and enter the same;—Therefore

"1. *Resolved*, That such attempts on the part of the General Assembly of 1837, and their Clerks, to direct and control the organization of the General Assembly of 1838, are unconstitutional, and in derogation of its just rights as the general representative judicatory of the whole Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

"2. *Resolved*, That the General Assembly cannot be legally constituted except by admitting to seats and to equality of powers, in the first instance, all Commissioners, who present the usual evidences of their appointment; and that it is the duty of the Clerks, and they are hereby directed, to form the Roll of the General Assembly of 1838, by including therein the names of all Commissioners from Presbyteries belonging to the said Presbyterian Church, not omitting the Commissioners from the several Presbyteries within the bounds of the Synods of Utica, Geneva, Genesee, and the Western Reserve; and in all things to form the said Roll according to the known practice and established usage of previous General Assemblies."

Commissions were called for, and committed to the hands of the Stated and Permanent Clerks.

Adjourned to meet in this place at 4 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, P. M. 4 o'clock, May 17.

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and corrected.

The Rev. John Blatchford, Rev. Jared B. Waterbury, and N. M. Masters, Elder, were appointed a *Committee of Elections.*

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional members, who appeared and took their seats, viz.—Mr. Milton Brayton, from the Presbytery of Oneida; Rev. James Richards, D. D., and Rev. Samuel W. Brace, of the Presbytery of Cayuga; Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Thomas Brainerd, and Messrs. Wm. Darling and George W. M'Clelland, from the third Presbytery of Philadelphia; and the Rev. Justin Marsh, from the Presbytery of Marshall.

The Committee further reported that the Rev. Adam Miller, from the Presbytery of Montrose, had not yet received his commission, but furnish- [647] ed other evidence of his appointment. His case was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Elections.

The following Resolution was offered and adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., Clerk of this Assembly, be directed to demand of the Rev. John M'Dowell, D. D., and Rev. John M. Krebs, Clerks of the last General Assembly, all the commissions of the Commissioners to the Assembly of 1838, which have been put into their hands; also the Records of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and all the books and papers belonging to the Assembly that may be in their possession."

The Committee on Elections reported, that there was satisfactory evidence of the election of the Rev. Adam Miller, from the Presbytery of Montrose, as a delegate to this body, and recommended that he be admitted to a seat. The report was adopted, and he took his seat accordingly.

Dr. Beman, Dr. Beecher, and Mr. Strong were appointed a *Committee to report Rules* for this Judicatory. After a short interval, they reported and at their recommendation the Rules contained in the Appendix to our Constitution were adopted, with the exception of the 17th and 18th Rules, and so much of the 13th Rule as relates to the "Previous Question." On the gen-

eral subject of the "Previous Question," the Committee desired further time, which was granted.

Dr. Patton, and Messrs. Dickinson, Cleaveland, Lathrop, E. Beecher, Darling, and Henry Brown, were appointed a *Committee of Bills and Overtures*, to meet at the rising of the Judicatory, and afterward on their own adjournments.

Dr. Beman, Dr. Weeks, and Messrs. Pierce, Squier, Bogue, Woodruff, and Dibrow, were appointed a *Judicial Committee.*

Messrs. Hartley, Hammond, and M'Clelland, were appointed the *Committee on Mileage.*

Messrs. Hopkins, J. B. Waterbury, Fowler, Bascom, and White, were appointed a *Committee to prepare the Narrative* on the state of Religion.

Messrs. Barnes, Brainerd, and Nichols, were appointed a *Committee* of Arrangements *for Devotional Exercises.*

Messrs. H. Taylor, D. Waterbury, S. G. Lowry, O. Woodruff, and E. Hawley, were appointed a Committee on *Leave of Absence.*

Messrs. J. B. Waterbury, Squier, Brainerd, Dr. Patton, Dr. Beman, Messrs. Pierce, Darling, and M'Clelland, were appointed a Special *Committee on* the subject of the *Commissioners' Fund.*

The Rev. John Blatchford was chosen Temporary Clerk.

The Stated Clerk of the last General Assembly having neglected to furnish the requisite number of printed copies of the Minutes of that Assembly, it was Resolved that the whole Minutes be now read. The reading commenced, and, after some progress, was suspended for the present.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday Morning, May 18, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the Minutes were read and corrected, the Committee on Commissions reported the following additional members, who took their seats, viz.: Rev. Jotham Goodell, from the Presbytery of Medina; Mr. John Boynton, Elder, from the Presbytery of Champlain; John H. Haynes, M. D., from the Presbytery of Troy.

The Committee on Rules further reported the following Rule, which was [648] adopted, viz.: "The previous question shall be in this form: 'Shall the main question be now put?' and when demanded by a majority of the members present, shall be put without debate. And until it is decided, shall preclude all amendment and further debate on the main question."

The reading of the Minutes of the last Assembly was resumed and completed.

Resolved, That after reading a portion of the Scriptures, the Assembly will spend a season of prayer in reference to the peculiar circumstances in which we are placed. President Beecher then read a portion of the second Epistle to Timothy; after which Dr. Richards led the Assembly in an address to the throne of grace.

A communication was received from the delegates from the General Association of Massachusetts, in relation to correspondence, which was put upon the files.

Adjourned till 4 o'clock this P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday Afternoon, 4 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the last session were read.

The Permanent Clerk reported that there had been put into his hands an Appeal and Complaint of the First Presbyterian Church of Norristown, Penn., against a decision of the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia. The appeal was referred to the Judicial Committee.

The following Committees were appointed to examine the Records of the several Synods; viz.: on the Records of the Synod of

Albany.—Messrs. D. Waterbury, Fitch, and Town.
Utica.—Messrs. Bingham, Watson, and Pierson.
Geneva.—Messrs. Lowry, Rogan, and Beebe.
Genesee.—Messrs. Vandeman, Smith, and Van Dyke.
New York.—Messrs. Aikin, Halsey, and Hascall.
New Jersey.—Messrs. Frost, Taylor, and Hotchkiss.
Philadelphia.—Messrs. Gillett, Hall, and Burritt.
Pittsburg.—Messrs. Woodbury, A. C. Dickerson, and Weed.
Ohio.—Messrs. Ash, Hoyt, and Esty.
Western Reserve.—Messrs. Myers, Rogan, and Clarke.
Cincinnati.—Messrs. Brace, Bailey, and Masters.
Indiana.—Messrs. Bridgman, Allen, and Jabez Goodell.
Illinois.—Messrs. W. L. Strong, Chapin, and Magiel.
Missouri.—Messrs. Johnson, Brayton, and Early.
Kentucky.—Dr. Weeks, and Messrs. Rudd and Ashley.
Virginia.—Messrs. Everett, Haynes, and Messer.
North Carolina.—Messrs. Paddock, Marsh, and Benton.
Tennessee.—Messrs. Brogne, J. R. Johnson, and Penfield.
West Tennessee.—Messrs. Barnes, Chapin, and Tyle.
South Carolina and Georgia.—Messrs. Francis, Salmon, and Hawley.
Mississippi.—Messrs. Jotham Goodell, Morrison, and Whitaker.
Michigan.—Messrs. Spear, Rudd, and Penfield.
Alabama.—Messrs. Miller, Price, and Crane.

The nomination of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning; and their election the order of the day for Monday morning.

Dr. Beecher, Dr. Richards, Dr. Beman, Dr. Weeks, and Messrs. Brainerd and Lathrop were appointed a *Committee to prepare a Pastoral Letter* to the churches under the care of the General Assembly. [649]

The report of the Trustees of the Assembly was made the order of the day for Tuesday next at 10 o'clock. The Report of the Trustees of Princeton Theological Seminary was made the order of the day for Tuesday next at 12 o'clock; of the Board of Directors of the same Seminary, at 4 o'clock of the same day; of the Board of Missions, on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock; of the Board of Education, on Thursday at 11 o'clock; of the Board of Foreign Missions, on Thursday, 4 o'clock, P. M. And the Clerk was ordered to notify the proper persons of the time at which the several Reports will be expected.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 1, consisting of the following Resolutions, which, after some discussion, were unanimously adopted, viz.:

"*Resolved*, 1. That the Resolution adopted by the last General Assembly (p. 442, printed Minutes) discountenancing the operations of the American Home Missionary Society, and the American Education Society, be, and the same are hereby rescinded.

"*Resolved*, 2. That the General Assembly recognize with devout gratitude to God, the eminent usefulness of those Societies to the Church and

the world, and cordially commend them to the continued confidence and increasing patronage of our churches."

Adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday Morning, May 19, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read.

Synodical Records were called for, and committed to the several Committees of Examination.

Statistical Reports from Presbyteries and from Synods were called for, and put into the hands of the Stated Clerk.

The Committee on Religious Exercises made a report recommending the celebration of the Lord's Supper on the next Sabbath, and the order of devotional exercises on Wednesday next, which was adopted.

The order of the day, viz., the Nomination of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, was taken up, and the whole subject was committed to Dr. Beman, and Messrs. Cleaveland and S. C. Brown, to inquire and report with what bodies, under existing circumstances, it is expedient to correspond.

The subject of the Contingent Fund was referred to the Committee on the Commissioners' Fund.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented Overtures Nos. 2 and 3, which were adopted, and are as follows:

Overture No. 2, *Resolved*, That the action of the last General Assembly, in declaring the Synods of the Western Reserve, Utica, Geneva, and Genesee, to be out of the ecclesiastical connexion of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and in declaring the 3d Presbytery of Philadelphia to be dissolved, is utterly at variance with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and therefore inoperative and void.

Overture No. 3, *Resolved*, That the Rules adopted by the last Assembly, (printed Minutes, p. 446, 447) in relation to newly formed Presbyteries excluding their Commissioners from their seats till after the organization of the Assembly, not having been submitted to the Presbyteries, and being contrary to the established usage of all former Assemblies, are not binding on this or any future Assembly. [650]

A communication from the Rev. George Bourne, requesting a copy of certain papers supposed to be on the files of the Assembly, was received, and referred to Messrs. Barnes and Brainerd.

An Appeal of the Session of the 2d Church of Newark, Ohio, against a decision of the Synod of Ohio, was put into the hands of the Clerk, and presented to the Assembly. Satisfactory reasons having been assigned for the delay of its presentation, it was, on motion, committed to the Judicial Committee.

Adjourned till Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Sabbath, P. M., 5 *o'clock.*

The members of the Assembly, in conjunction with such of their fellow-Christians as chose to unite with them, joined in celebrating the Lord's Supper, agreeably to a previous arrangement.

Monday Morning, May 21*st*, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read.

A communication from the Rev. Mr. Curtis, Delegate from the General Convention of Vermont, was received, and ordered to be placed upon the files.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had excused the Rev. Dr. Richards from the remaining sessions of the Assembly on the ground of severe indisposition.

The injunction of the last Assembly (p. 497 printed Minutes), in reference to the sending up copies of all abbreviated creeds, was taken up. Synods were called to learn what action had been had upon the subject. After which it was *Resolved*, that all such creeds be now called for, and committed to Messrs. Myers, Morrison, Hopkins, P. Chamberlain, and Town, to consider and report.

Overture No. 4, was reported by the Committee of Bills and Overtures, taken up, and adopted, viz.: "*Resolved*, That for the current year the Assembly will elect six Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

"*Resolved*, That the election of said Trustees be made the order of the day for Thursday forenoon at 10 o'clock, in the manner prescribed and adopted by the Assembly in 1801, v. p. 198, 199, of the Digest."

The Appeal of the 2d Church of Newark Ohio, from a decision of the Synod of Ohio, was taken up and considered. The Moderator read rule 39th as directed by the book. After some progress, the records of the inferior judicatory not being present, the consideration of the case was arrested, and the following resolution was adopted: "*Whereas* the Synod of Ohio has failed to send up to the General Assembly their records in the case of an appeal from their decision relative to the organization of a 2d Presbyterian Church in Newark, therefore

"*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the case be referred to the next General Assembly, and that the Synod be directed to send up to that Assembly the records in question, that the case may be fully issued."

Adjourned till 3½ o'clock this P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the last session were read.

The committee appointed by the last Assembly (printed Minutes, p. 480), [651] to report on the subject of the Ratio of Representation, having sent up no report, and not being any of them in attendance on the Assembly, Messrs. Pierce, Watson, and Frost were appointed a Committee to consider and report on the same subject.

On leave, the Rev. M. Baird addressed the Assembly on the subject of the state of religion in Europe till 5 o'clock.

Resolved, That the next General Assembly be held in the city of Philadelphia in the First Presbyterian Church.

The Committee on Correspondence made a report designating the churches, both at home and abroad, with which it is expedient to correspond. The report, after being amended, was adopted; and Messrs. Dickinson, Patton, and Waterbury, were appointed a Committee to prepare a letter to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and Messrs. Pierce, Brainerd, and Dr. Mason, a letter to the Synod of Ulster.

The Appeal from the Church of Norristown from a decision of the 2d Presbytery of Philadelphia was taken up. The records of the inferior judicatory not being present, the consideration of the case was referred to the

next Assembly, and the Presbytery was directed to send up its records, that the case might be fully issued.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday Morning, May 22d, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read. The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to Mr. Barrows and Mr. Avery.

The answers of Presbyteries to the Overture sent down by the last Assembly in reference to the stopping of Appeals in ordinary cases at the Synod, were called for, and committed to Messrs. Nash and Rudd to examine and report the result.

Delegates to Corresponding Bodies were nominated, and their election was made the order of the day for this afternoon.

Overture No. 5, on the subject of the "Sabbath," was received from the Committee of Bills and Overtures, and referred to Messrs. Cleaveland, Dr. Weeks, S. Haynes, John H. Haynes, Watson, Jabez Goodell, and Whitaker, as a special committee to consider and report on the general subject of the desecration of the Sabbath.

Overture No. 6, viz. "*Resolved*, That it be the order of the day for 12 o'clock on Thursday, to choose ten Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton,"—was presented by the Committee of Overtures, and adopted.

Overture No. 7, viz. "*Resolved*, That the Clerks be directed to have printed 500 copies of the Roll of the Assembly, with the officers and Standing Committees, for the use of the members," was presented and adopted.

The order of the day, viz. receiving the Report of the Trustees of the General Assembly, was taken up. The report was called for by the Moderator, but no report was received nor answer made to the call. On inquiry whether proper notice had been given to that Board of the expectations of the Assembly, it appeared that regular notice had been given them by the Stated Clerk.

The Committee on the Commissioners' Fund made a report, which, after some discussion and amendment, was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

"*Whereas* for many years past the Commissioners' Fund has been inadequate to defray the expenses of the several Commissioners to the General [652] Assembly, and in consequence thereof unequal burdens have been imposed on some of the Churches; their Ministers, Elders, and distant Presbyteries have been deprived of their representation in the General Assembly; and *whereas* it is the duty and privilege of every Presbyterian to be represented, and a full representation of every portion of the Presbyterian Church is highly conducive to the harmony and prosperity of our Zion, therefore

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to the Presbyteries to cause each church and congregation under their care to make an annual contribution to the Contingent Fund of the General Assembly.

Resolved, That the Presbyteries be enjoined to send a copy of the above preamble and Resolution to the several churches under their care, and that the pastors of those Churches be requested to read the same to their respective congregations, and use their influence to obtain liberal contributions to the Contingent Fund of the General Assembly.

Resolved, That it be recommended to all Commissioners residing within 100 miles of the place of the meeting of the General Assembly, to relinquish their mileage for the benefit of those who reside at a greater distance.

Resolved, That the expense of Commissioners be paid out of the Contin-

gent Fund of the General Assembly in the following manner, viz. that all Commissioners residing within 500 miles of the place of meeting of the Assembly shall receive an equal proportion of mileage according to the number of miles traveled by them; and that all Commissioners residing more than 500 miles shall receive an advance over and above those within 500 miles of 50 per cent. on their mileage; and that the distance be computed by the route usually traveled.

Resolved, That all previous rules in relation to the Commissioners' Fund, inconsistent with the foregoing rules, are hereby rescinded.

And *whereas* the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America has neglected to make his annual report to the General Assembly, therefore

Resolved, That the collections made by Presbyteries for the Commissioners' Fund of 1838 be paid to the Chairman of the Committee on Mileage, who is hereby directed to keep an account of the several sums received, and make a report thereof in the general report of that Committee.

Resolved, further, That it is hereby recommended to the Churches under the care of the Assembly, as soon as practicable, to take up collections or obtain donations from individuals, and forward the same to the Stated Clerk, to pay the Contingent expenses of the Assembly for the present year; and that what has already been collected for the Contingent Fund be also paid into his hands.

The order of the day was taken up, viz. receiving the Report of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton. The Moderator called for the Report, and no answer was given. On inquiry whether the Trustees had received proper notice, the Stated Clerk answered that regular notice had been given, and that no answer had been returned.

The Committee to whom was referred the letter of the Rev. George Bourne, reported that the papers asked for by Mr. Bourne are not in the possession of the General Assembly.

Adjourned till 3½ P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, 3½ o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the last session were read and corrected.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz. the election of [653] Delegates to Corresponding Bodies. Messrs. Gillett and Squier were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots, and report the result.

The Stated Clerk presented the following Report, which was accepted, and ordered to be entered on the Minutes.

The Stated Clerk reports that he transmitted to the Rev. John McDowell, D. D., Stated Clerk, and the Rev. John M. Krebs, the Permanent Clerk of the last Assembly, a certified copy of the Resolution of May 17th, demanding of the said Clerks the Commissions of Commissioners to the Assembly of 1838, and all the records, papers, and documents belonging to the General Assembly, and which may now be in the possession of the said Clerks; that the Rev. John McDowell, D. D., formally declined, in the presence of the Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., to deliver any record or document whatsoever belonging to the General Assembly and now in his possession; and that the Rev. John M. Krebs, in answer to the demand of your Clerk, returned a written communication of which the following is an extract:

"In reply to your favor, I would respectfully inform you that I am the Permanent Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America; that the Minutes of the Assembly for May

17th are now before me; and that there is no record on the minutes either of such a Resolution as you have communicated, or of your appointment as Stated Clerk in the place of Dr. John McDowell; and consequently I have no authority to comply with your demand.

(Signed) "JOHN M. KREBS."

The order of the day, viz. receiving the Report of the Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, was taken up.

The Stated Clerk reported that due notice of this call of the Assembly had been given. The report was called for by the Moderator, and no response was made.

Adjourned till Wednesday morning, 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday Morning, May 24, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer. The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave of absence had been given to Messrs. Hammond, Beebee, Ashley, and Horace Allen.

Mr. Hawley was appointed on the Mileage Committee, in the place of Mr. Hammond, who had obtained leave of absence.

The Committee appointed to count the ballots for Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, reported that the following persons were elected:

To the General Association of Connecticut—Rev. Thomas Brainerd, Rev. John Blatchford, and Rev. Eliakim Phelps.

To the General Association of Massachusetts—Rev. John Blatchford and Rev. Thomas Brainerd, and Rev. Eliakim Phelps, alternate.

To the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island—Rev. Eliakim Phelps.

To the General Association of New Hampshire and Vermont—Rev. John P. Cleaveland, and the Rev. Benjamin Labaree, alternate.

To the General Conference of Maine—Rev. Thomas T. Waterman.

To the Synod of the German Reformed Church—Rev. Erastus Hopkins, and Rev. John L. Grant.

To the Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church—Rev. Jared B. Waterbury and Rev. S. T. Spear, and the Rev. Ansel D. Eddy, alternate.

To the Congregational Union of England and Wales—Rev. Nathan S. [654] Beman, D. D., Rev. William Patton, D. D., and Rev. John P. Cleaveland and Rev. Samuel C. Aikin, alternates.

The Committee appointed to report on the subject of altering the Ratio of Representation, reported that it is not expedient at present to make any alteration in the Constitution on this subject. The report was adopted.

Nominations were made for Trustees of the General Assembly.

Overture No. 8, was presented, and after discussion, unanimously adopted: viz. "*Resolved* that this body are willing to agree to any reasonable measures tending to an amicable adjustment of the difficulties existing in the Presbyterian Church, and will receive and respectfully consider any propositions which may be made for that purpose."

The Assembly then proceeded to the order of the day, viz., to receive the Reports of the Presbyteries on the state of religion. After some progress, the Assembly adjourned till 3½ o'clock this afternoon.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday P. M., 3½ *o'clock.*

The Assembly met in the church, and spent the greater portion of the afternoon in Devotional Exercises, agreeably to an arrangement previously

made. After which the unfinished business of the morning was resumed, and after some progress therein,

Adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 24, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 9, "A Petition for a Division of the Synod of Philadelphia;" which was referred to Dr. Mason and Messrs. Squier and Beecher.

Also Overture No. 10, "Sundry Memorials on the subject of Slavery;" which was referred to Dr. Beman, Dr. Weeks, and Messrs. Chamberlain, Woodbury and Darling. The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz., Receiving Reports on Synodical Records. The Records of the Synods of Geneva, of the Western Reserve, and of New Jersey were approved. The Records of the other Synods not being present, the Committees appointed to examine them were discharged.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz., hearing the narratives on the state of religion, was resumed and completed.

At 10 o'clock the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz.: the election of six Trustees of the General Assembly. Messrs. Bogue, Brown, and Chapin were appointed to receive the ballots and report the result. The Assembly ascertained that no vacancies in the Board of Trustees have occurred by death or otherwise. They then proceeded to try whether they could elect any of that third of the number of Trustees which they are permitted by law to change, by voting for a person to fill the place of the Rev. Ashbel Green, D. D., the first on the list. On counting the votes it was ascertained that all the votes given were for James Todd, who was accordingly declared by the Moderator to be a trustee duly chosen in the place of Ashbel Green. In the same manner the Assembly proceeded to vote, and unanimously elected John R. Neff in the place of George C. Potts; Frederick A. Raybold in the place of William Latta; George W. M'Clelland in the place of Thomas Bradford; William Darling in the place of Solomon Allen; and Thomas Fleming in the place of [655] Cornelius C. Cuyler; thus changing as many of the trustees as they are permitted by law to change. Whereupon James Todd, John R. Neff, Frederick A. Raybold, George W. M'Clelland, William Darling, and Thomas Fleming were declared to be duly elected Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

The Report of the Board of Missions being the order of the day, was called for by the Moderator, but no report was received. The Stated Clerk reported that he had duly notified the Board of this appointment, and that no answer had been returned.

The Report of the Board of Education was then called for by the Moderator. The Board had been duly notified by the Stated Clerk. No report was furnished.

The Committee appointed to report on the subject of Abbreviated Creeds made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

"There have been put into the hands of the Committee printed or written formularies of abbreviated creeds from the following Presbyteries, as approved by them, and recommended to the churches under their care; viz. the Presbyteries of Geneva, Buffalo, Cleveland, St. Joseph, Monroe, Ottawa, and Peoria. Also from individual churches within the Presbyteries of Wilmington, Montrose, Columbia, and Maumee.

The Commissioners from five Presbyteries, viz. Crawfordsville, Marion, Union, Holston, and the French Broad, have informed the Committee that there are no creeds other than the Bible and the Confession of Faith in use in the Churches within their bounds. These Presbyteries and Churches, it will be observed, are from widely distinct portions of the Presbyterian Church. But still the number of Presbyteries that have reported on this subject, and the number of the creeds received by the Committee, is obviously too small for the Committee or the Assembly to form any very intelligent or just judgment in regard to the character of such formularies as may be in use in the great majority of the churches that employ them in the admission of members.

Your Committee, however, after a careful examination of all the documents put into their hands touching this subject, have come to the following result, viz.:

1. That agreeably to the import of these Abbreviated Creeds, they are short summaries (some more and others less full or explicit), of the leading or more important doctrines of the word of God and the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

2. That these summaries or abbreviated creeds, as far as they go in the statement of doctrines, notwithstanding slight and unessential discrepancies, are none of them at variance with the system of doctrine taught in the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church. And although in a few cases they are not as full and explicit in stating some of the doctrines as might be desired, yet they are but summaries, and, like the Confession of Faith itself, to be more fully explained and enlarged upon in the whole course of scriptural instruction in doctrine and practice.

The Committee therefore recommend the following Resolutions for the adoption of the Assembly, to be sent down to the Presbyteries:

Resolved, 1. That from an examination of several abbreviated creeds or forms of confession from distinct and widely scattered portions of the church (being all that have been sent up), the General Assembly discover no cause thus far of complaint, alarm, or suspicion in regard to the use of these formularies in our churches.

2. That it be earnestly recommended to all the Presbyteries to collect [656] and send up by their Commissioners to the next General Assembly copies of all abbreviated creeds and Confessions of Faith in use by the Churches under their care, that a more full and more complete report may be made upon this subject.

3. That it be, and hereby is recommended to all the Presbyteries to take special pains to have the book containing the Confession of Faith and Form of Government of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, more generally circulated among the churches under their care.

The Committee to whom was referred the reports of the Presbyteries in relation to an overture sent down by the last Assembly (p. 497 Minutes), proposing a change of the Constitution so as to make synods, in the cases proposed, the judicatories of last resort, reported that the following 20 Presbyteries, viz. Newark, Marion, Peoria, 3d New-York, Athens, Columbia, Oneida, Cayuga, Delaware, Crawfordsville, Wilmington, Onondaga, Portage, Newburyport, Detroit, Monroe, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Otsego, and Sangamon have reported in favor of the proposed change; and that 2 Presbyteries, viz. St. Charles and Clinton have reported against the proposed change.

As only a minority of the Presbyteries had sent up their answer to this Assembly, it was ordered that the same overture be again sent down to all

the Presbyteries, and that they be earnestly requested to send their answers to the next Assembly.

The Committee to whom were referred sundry Memorials on the subject of Slavery, reported that the applicants, for reasons satisfactory to themselves, had asked leave to withdraw their papers, and recommended that leave be given. Leave was given accordingly; and the Committee were discharged.

Adjourned till half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday P. M., half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the last session were read.

The order of the day, viz. the Report of the Board of Foreign Missions, was taken up. The call was made for the report and no response was given. The Stated Clerk reported that the Board had been duly notified.

Overture No. 11, on the subject of the "Annual Concert of Prayer for the conversion of the world," was reported by the Committee of Bills and Overtures, and accepted and adopted, viz.:—

Resolved 1. That it be earnestly recommended to all the churches under the care of the General Assembly to observe, in connection with other denominations of Christians, the first Monday in January next as a day of Humiliation, and Prayer for the revival of vital and practical religion throughout Christendom, and for the conversion of the world.

Resolved 2. That each minister within our bounds be requested, on the Sabbath previous, to preach on some subject having a direct reference to the conversion of the world.

Resolved 3. That all evangelical denominations of Christians throughout the world be invited to unite with us in this concert.

4. *Ordered* that these Resolutions be appended to the Narrative on the state of religion within our bounds, as well as printed in our Minutes.

The Committee appointed to prepare a letter to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, reported a letter, which was approved and ordered to be signed by the Moderator and Stated Clerk, and forwarded to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. [657]

The Judicial Committee reported that the following items of judicial business were referred to the Assembly by the last Assembly, viz.:

The Appeal of the Rev. J. C. Harrison against the Synod of Cincinnati; Complaint of members of the Synod of Illinois against said Synod in the case of Rev. W. J. Frazer; Appeal of Adam Johnston from a decision of the Synod of Philadelphia; Complaint of the Presbytery of Wilmington against the Synod of Philadelphia: and Complaint of the Rev. John M. Bear against the Synod of Philadelphia.

The Assembly, having ascertained that the documents relating to the above-named cases were not in the house, ordered that they be dismissed.

A report of the Synod of New Jersey to this Assembly, on the subject of irregularities in church order, was read and ordered to be put upon the files.

Overture No. 12, "A petition of certain members of the Presbyteries of Wilmington, Lewes, Philadelphia 2d, and Philadelphia 3d, praying for the erection of a new Synod from the parts of the Synod of Philadelphia," was reported, and the following Resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the ministers and congregations belonging to the Presbyteries of Wilmington, Lewes, Philadelphia 2d, Philadelphia 3d, Carlisle, Huntingdon, and Northumberland, be, and they hereby are set off from the

Synod of Philadelphia, and erected into a new Synod to be called the "Synod of Pennsylvania;" that they hold their first meeting in the Eleventh Presbyterian Church in the city of Philadelphia on the 2d Wednesday of July next, at 11 o'clock A. M., and be opened with a sermon by the Rev. E. W. Gilbert, or, in case of his absence, by the oldest minister present, who shall preside till a new Moderator be chosen, and that they meet afterward on their own adjournment.

Overture No. 13, was reported and adopted, and is as follows: "In view of the peculiar attitude of the Presbyterian church, *Resolved*, That a *Committee of Twelve* be appointed with power to advise and direct in respect to any legal questions and pecuniary interests that may require attention during the ensuing year."

The following persons were appointed that Committee, viz. Hon. William Darling, Rev. John L. Grant, Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., Ambrose White, Esq., Thomas Fleming, Esq., George W. McClelland, Esq., Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Thomas Brainerd, Rev. Absalom Peters, D. D., Rev. Wm. Patton, D. D., Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., and Rev. E. W. Gilbert.

Ordered, That the Committee meet immediately after the dissolution of this Assembly, and afterward on their own adjournment.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday Morning, May 25, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Roll was called and the Minutes were read.

The Committee appointed to prepare a letter to the Synod of Ulster reported a letter, which was accepted and adopted, ordered to be signed by the Moderator and Stated Clerk, and forwarded to the body addressed.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave of absence had been given to Messrs. John H. Haynes, Tyler, Clark, and Hotchkiss.

Resolved, That the Assembly will receive the Report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary this day at 12 o'clock.

The Committee appointed to report on the subject of the Desecration of the Sabbath (Overture 5), made a report; and after some discussion, the further consideration of it was, for the present, postponed, to take up the [658] order of the day, viz. receiving the Report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary.

The Report of said Directors was then called for, but no report was presented.

Nominations were then made for Directors of the Princeton Theological Seminary and of the Western Theological Seminary, and the elections made the order of the day for 10 and 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Adjourned till half-past 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday Afternoon, half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the last session were read.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz. the report on the subject of the Sabbath, was resumed; and the report was amended and adopted, and is as follows:

"The Committee to whom was referred Overture No. 5, to wit, 'A Memorial from the Presbytery of Cleveland on the subject of Sabbath mails,' having been instructed to report on the general subject of 'Sabbath desecration,' submit the following:

"In the deliberate judgment of your Committee, it is an unquestionable fact that, in despite of all which has been said and done to check it, the profanation of the Lord's Day is, on the whole, increasing. There are, indeed, some local and cheering exceptions to this remark, which we are happy to acknowledge. As a national sin, however, it steadily gathers strength, and puts on a more unblushing face every year. We hear much of the moral machinery which has been set in motion for the salvation of our country and of the world—of the blessed light of the nineteenth century, and the glory of our free institutions. Too often do we seem to forget that the very institution which is the chief support of liberty, learning, and religion, is itself standing in fearful jeopardy. All those whose lot is cast in any of the great centres of business, or on any of the principal avenues of intercommunication, know that what your Committee assert is true. Their own eyes have seen it, their own ears have heard it, and their hearts have bled over it a thousand times. It is, in fact, universally conceded, that the desecration of the Sabbath has become a giant evil, calling loudly for the most efficient measures of reform. Your Committee desire not unnecessarily to publish the faults of the Christian Church. But they are compelled to confess, that in many parts of the country the frequent violations of the Sabbath by ministers of the Gospel, and by other professors of religion, is a serious obstacle in the way of all attempts at radical and permanent reformation. Till the ministry of the Church have purified themselves, all else will be, as it has been, 'beating the air.' Traveling on the Sabbath, a practice to which the convocation of the highest judicatory of our Church lends its guilty sanction; voluntary participation in enterprises and improvements which are prosecuted at the expense of the Sabbath; the legalized profanation of this holy day by the transmission of the mail on all the principal routes; and the frequent neglect of church discipline, are among the many causes of the rapid spread of this enormous evil. The bare enumeration of these causes suggests the proper remedy. Resolutions, addresses, conventions, and all the stirring appeals which the subject has called forth, are, by themselves, utterly ineffectual. The leviathan with which we are now contending is not to be so tamed. A more potent corrective must be applied, or we shall become more and more a nation of Sabbath breakers. The Church undoubtedly possesses the [659] power to cleanse her own garments, and till she has done this, she has no strength to put on for the reformation of others. Having done this, the next step will be to lift up a united voice against all that immoral legislation behind which the sin of Sabbath-breaking now stands entrenched. What has been found true in the 'Temperance Reform,' will be found true in the 'Sabbath Reform.' The sanction of law must be removed from every evil which you would frown upon and exterminate. To do this, the public mind must be waked up, and held awake till the combined energy of patriotism and piety is enlisted and pledged for the protection of the Sabbath against every tangible form of profanation and abuse. Your Committee accordingly recommend for your adoption the following resolutions, viz.:

"*Resolved*, That this Assembly regard the prosecution of a journey on any part of the Sabbath, whether by ministers, elders, or church members, for the sake of convenience or of avoiding expense, as deserving of special notice and unqualified disapprobation.

"*Resolved*, That this Assembly affectionately urge upon all the judicatories of the Church to take suitable measures for enforcing the wise discipline of the Church against all violations of the Sabbath within their own cognizance and jurisdiction.

"*Resolved*, That it is the duty of the Christian ministry to unite in more concentrated and persevering efforts to assert the claims of the Christian Sabbath upon the habitual regard of the whole community.

"*Resolved*, That the Assembly will give its most cordial approbation to any and every wise plan for uniting the sympathies and strength of all evangelical denominations in defence of the Christian Sabbath.

"*Resolved*, That a Committee of nine be appointed to correspond with other evangelical denominations on the subject of measures for promoting a better observance of the Lord's day.

"*Resolved*, That the Clerks of this Assembly be requested to cause these Resolutions to be officially published and circulated as widely as possible, through the religious press, and that all ministers within our bounds be requested to present them before their respective congregations."

The following persons were appointed a Committee of Correspondence on the subject of the foregoing resolutions: Messrs. Harman Kingsbury, J. P. Cleaveland, John Blatchford, Albert Barnes, Thomas Brainerd, Dr. Beman, Dr. Patton, Dr. Cox, and Mr. Dickinson.

A request was received, through the Moderator, from the Corresponding Secretary of the American Sunday School Union, to address the General Assembly in reference to their plans of operation for the future. The request was granted, and the Assembly agreed to hear the address to-morrow morning at half-past 9 o'clock.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Narrative on the state of religion, made a report, which was adopted, and ordered to be published.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Pastoral Letter to the churches under the care of the General Assembly, made a report, which was adopted, and ordered to be published.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 26, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Roll was called, and the Minutes were read.

A resolution was introduced (by Mr. Gilbert), in reference to the exami-[660] nation of Ministers applying for admission to Presbyteries, and after some discussion was committed to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures then introduced the following Overture (No. 14), which after some discussion was committed to Dr. Beman, Mr. Brainerd, and Mr. Strong to report this afternoon.

The election of Directors for the Princeton Theological Seminary and for the Western Theological Seminary, which was the order of the day for this morning, was taken up, and for the present postponed to Monday morning.

Adjourned till this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday Afternoon, 4 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the last session were read. After which the Assembly adjourned till Monday morning 10 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 28, 10 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the last session were read.

Gideon S. White, Wm. Dick, S. B. Canfield, and J Q. A. Bassett had leave of absence.

Overture No. 15 was presented and adopted, and is as follows: viz.

"*Resolved*, That the 'Committee of twelve,' appointed on the 24th instant, be, and they are hereby authorized, to adopt all such measures as they in their judgment may deem proper, to preserve and maintain inviolate the rights and privileges of the General Assembly, and of the churches under their jurisdiction."

The Committee to whom was referred Overture No. 14, reported the following resolution, which was adopted:

"*Whereas*, It is the inherent right of Presbyteries to expound and apply constitutional rules, touching the qualification of their own members; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That the action of the last General Assembly (p. 429 printed Minutes) making it imperative on the Presbyteries to examine all who make application for admission to their bodies, not excepting ministers coming from other Presbyteries, is null and void."

The Assembly proceeded to the election of Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and of the Western Theological Seminary. Messrs. Dickinson and Vandeman were appointed to receive and count the ballots.

The following persons were unanimously elected Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton for 3 years:

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Rev. Asa Hillyer, D. D.,	Alexander Henry,
Rev. Selah B. Treat,	George W. McClelland,
Rev. E. W. Gilbert,	John L. Mason.
Rev. William R. Weeks, D. D.,	
Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D.,	
Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D.,	
Rev. Albert Barnes.	

The following persons were elected Directors of the Western Theological Seminary for 3 years: [661]

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Rev. Samuel Rallston, D. D.,	Harmar Denny,
Rev. Robert Johnston,	Alex. Semple,
Rev. Wm. Jeffry,	H. H. Leavitt.
Rev. C. C. Beatty,	
Rev. Samuel McFarren,	
Rev. Loyal Young.	
Rev. George Marshall.	

Resolved, That we recommend to the churches under our care increased attention to the daily study of the Bible by course.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk and Dr. Patton be a Committee to prepare and print a Complete Digest of all the important acts of past General Assemblies.

Resolved, That inasmuch as the General Assembly have received from the Boards of Missions and Education no reports the present year, it is inexpedient for the Assembly to take any further action in relation to said Boards at this time.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to the citizens

of Philadelphia for their kindness and hospitality to the members of the Assembly; and also to the Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church for the use of their church and lecture room during the sessions of the Assembly.

On motion, the resolution referring the appeal of the session of the church of Norristown from a decision of the 2d Presbytery of Philadelphia to the next General Assembly, was reconsidered. The appeal was then, on motion, referred to the Synod of Pennsylvania for their adjudication.

The Committee on Mileage reported that the aggregate of applications for mileage amounted to the sum of $1595 26 cents; that the cash received from Presbyteries and individual contributions amounted to $1051 67 cents; leaving a deficit of $543 59 cents. The report was accepted and adopted, and the Committee were ordered to pay accordingly.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be authorized to borrow a sum sufficient to supply the deficiency indicated by the foregoing report, on the condition that the sum borrowed be repaid from the Contingent Fund about to be raised.

The Janitor's bill, amounting to 35 dollars, was allowed and paid.

Adjourned to 4 o'clock, this P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday Afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the last session were read.

Resolved, That 1000 copies of the Minutes be printed, under the direction of Dr. Patton and the Stated Clerk.

Resolved, That a copy of the Minutes be sent to each minister, or each vacant church session that may contribute to the Contingent Fund.

The salaries of the Stated and Permanent Clerks were allowed, and ordered to be paid.

The calling of the Roll was, on motion, dispensed with.

The Assembly having finished their business, it was

Resolved, That this General Assembly be dissolved; and that another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, be required to meet in the [662] First Presbyterian Church in the city of Philadelphia on the third Thursday of May, 1839, at 11 o'clock A. M.

The Moderator dissolved the Assembly accordingly, with prayer, doxology, and benediction.

APPENDIX.

PASTORAL LETTER TO THE CHURCHES UNDER THE CARE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Beloved in the Lord—It is well known as a matter of history, that the Presbyterian church in our nation commenced in the union of pious natives and foreigners of Congregational and Presbyterian origin. These differences, in her early and feeble state, occasioned no interruption of her peace and efficiency. But as her numbers increased, they produced contentions, which resulted in the violent expulsion of one Synod by another, and a separation of seventeen years.

The terms of reunion were, a subscription to the Confession of Faith, "as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures," notwith-

standing any such "scruples with respect to any article or articles of said Confession, as the Presbytery or Synod shall judge not essential or necessary, in doctrine, worship or discipline;" and "the Synod do solemnly agree that none of us will traduce, or use any opprobrious terms of those who differ from us in those extra essential and not necessary points of doctrine, but treat them with the same friendship, kindness, and brotherly love, as if they had not differed from us in such sentiments."

By this "plan of union," the peace of the church was restored, and her prosperity augmented, though from some circumstances the administration of her policy was continued without envy, in the hands of the immigrant Presbyterian portion of the church.

When the tide of population began to roll westward, and the territories of our church were fast filling up with pious emigrants from the East, a proposal was made by the General Assembly of our church to the Association of Connecticut, to permit the union in the same church of Presbyterians and Congregationalists, in the new settlements, for the greater facility of supporting and extending the institutions of religion. This union, so congenial with the spirit of the Gospel, exerted for a long time an auspicious influence, in the extension of Presbyterian churches from the Hudson to the Mississippi.

But at length, in the mysterious providence of God, it came to pass that the very causes of our prosperity became the occasions of disaster. For, in the rapid multiplication of new States and Presbyterian churches, it soon became apparent that native American Presbyterians must unavoidably become a majority of the church; and though the slight variations of doctrine and policy created no alarm while the helm of power was supposed to be safe, the prospect of its passing to other hands created a strong sensation.

About this time a plan of union was formed with the Associate Reformed church, and a considerable accession was made to our church from that body; and soon after, the system of ecclesiastical organization commenced for the administration of the charities of the church, with increasing unfriendliness to voluntary associations, till the one was established and the others were disclaimed and opposed.

During the progress of these movements, the slight shades of doctrinal difference, always known and permitted to exist in the church, before and since the adopting act, and recognized in every form, as consistent with the Confession of Faith and the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace, became the occasions of alarm, and whisperings, and accusations, and at length of ecclesiastical trials for heresy; while doctrines and measures unknown to the Confession were selected as tests of orthodoxy.

As the result of these efforts to change the terms of subscription and union, the General Assembly of 1837, "convinced that a separation of the parties was the only cure," and "that a separation by personal process was impossible, or, if possible, tedious, agitating, and troublesome in the highest degree," proceeded without charges, citation, witnesses, or a judicial trial, to separate four Synods and one Presbytery from the Presbyterian church. In these circumstances, apprised by counsel of the unconstitutionality of the disfranchising act, and advised of a constitutional mode of organization, we did, in a meeting for consultation and prayer, on the 15th day of May, 1838, send the following proposal to a large number of commissioners to the Assembly met in another place, viz.:—

"*Resolved*, That while we regard with deep sorrow the existing difficulties in our beloved church, we would fondly hope that there are no insurmountable obstacles in the way of averting the calamities of a violent dismember-

ment, and of securing such an organization as may avoid collisions, and secure the blessings of a perpetuated harmonious action.

"*Resolved*, That we are ready to co-operate in any efforts for pacification, which are constitutional, and which shall recognize the regular standing and secure the rights of the entire church, including those portions which the acts of the last General Assembly were intended to exclude.

"*Resolved*, That a committee of three be now appointed, respectfully to communicate the foregoing resolutions to those commissioners now in session in this city, who are at present inclined to sustain the acts of the last General Assembly, and inquire whether they will open a friendly conference for the purpose of ascertaining if some constitutional terms of pacification may not be agreed upon."

While this proposal was under consideration, it was resolved by the meeting,

"That, should a portion of the commissioners to the next General Assembly attempt to organize the Assembly without admitting to their seats commissioners from all the Presbyteries recognized in the organization of the General Assembly of 1837, it will then be the duty of the commissioners present to organize the General Assembly of 1838, in all respects according to the Constitution, and to transact all other necessary business consequent upon such organization."

To our communication, we received the following answer:—

"The committee on the communication from 'the meeting of commissioners,' now in session in the lecture room of the First Church, presented the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted: viz.

"*Whereas* the resolutions of 'the meeting,' whilst they profess a readiness 'to co-operate in any efforts for pacification, which are constitutional,' manifestly proceed upon the erroneous supposition that the acts of the last General Assembly, declaring the four synods of the Western Reserve, Utica, Geneva, Genessee, out of the ecclesiastical connection of our church, were unconstitutional and invalid, and the convention cannot for a moment consent to consider them in this light; therefore,

"*Resolved unanimously*, That the convention regard the said overture of 'the meeting,' however intended, as founded upon a basis which is wholly inadmissible, and as calculated only to disturb that peace of our church, which a calm and firm adherence to those constitutional, just, and necessary acts of the last General Assembly, can alone, by the blessing of Divine Providence, establish and secure.

"*Resolved*, That, in the judgment of the convention, the resolution of the last General Assembly, which provides, in substance, that all churches and ministers within the said four Synods, which are strictly Presbyterian in doctrine and order, and wish to unite with us, may apply for admission into those Presbyteries belonging to our connection which are most convenient to their respective locations; and that any such Presbytery as aforesaid, being strictly Presbyterian in doctrine and order, and now in connection with either of the said Synods, as may desire to unite with us, are directed to make application, with a full statement of their case, to the next 'General Assembly, which will take order therein,' furnishes a fair and easy mode of proceeding, by which all such ministers, churches, and Presbyteries, within the said Synods, as are already desirous to be 'recognized' as in regular standing with us, and as proper parts of our 'entire church,' may obtain their object without trouble and without delay."

By this answer, all prospect of conciliation or an amicable division being foreclosed, we did, after mature consideration and fervent prayer, proceed,

at a proper time and place, to organize, in a constitutional manner, the General Assembly of 1838; which, being accomplished on our part, without violence or tumult, the Assembly adjourned to the First Presbyterian Church.

During the session of the Assembly, on Wednesday, May 24th, the following resolution was passed: viz.

"*Resolved*, That this body is willing to agree to any reasonable measures, tending to an amicable adjustment of the difficulties existing in the Presbyterian church, and will receive and respectfully consider any propositions which may be made for that purpose."

Beside these overtures for peace, influential members of the Assembly held personal conference with members of the other body, till it was ascertained that there was no hope of an amicable settlement of differences.

In the retrospect of this mournful history, we are compelled to regard the excision of the four Synods and the Third Presbytery of Philadelphia, with the setting up a new test of doctrine and measures, as an exercise of power by the Assembly unknown to the constitution, and dangerous to the purity and liberty of the church, perpetuating to an accidental majority unlimited and irresponsible power, and affording to minorities only such protection as may be found in passive obedience and non-resistance.

We could not fail to perceive, in a General Assembly concentrating in itself legislative, judicial, and executive power, and dispensing the discipline, the honors, and the copious revenues of the church, the elements of an ecclesiastical organization, which, with less pretension in the beginning, had once, for more than ten centuries, subverted the liberties and rolled back the civilization of the world.

To have acquiesced in such concentration of irresponsible ecclesiastical power and patronage, would have been to abandon the constitution of the church, which we had solemnly engaged to defend—to expose large amounts of property to diversion from its intended use—to subject the churches to a widespread, vexatious litigation—to abandon to aggression and division, a large and efficient body of concordant churches with their pastors—to surrender the rights of conscience, and free inquiry, and charitable enterprise, to an organization never recognized by Heaven as their keeper, or clothed by our constitution with their power; and, finally, to throw apparently the example of an extended and powerful church—the patron, hitherto, of constitutional liberty—on the side of those elements of strife and violence, which already so powerfully agitate the nation.

We love and honor the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian church as containing more well-defined fundamental truth, with less defect than appertains to any other human formula of doctrine, and as calculated to hold, in intelligent concord, a greater number of sanctified minds than any which could now be formed; and we disclaim all design, past, present, or future, to change it. But it is not the Bible, nor a substitute for the Bible, nor a stereotyped page, to be merely committed to memory, by unreflecting, confiding minds, without energy of thought, and a prayerful, faithful searching of the Scriptures. It is itself an illustrious monument of the independent investigation of the most gifted minds, and breathes and inspires the spirit which formed it.

We impute to our brethren no intention of producing the results which we anticipate from their measures, but good intentions do not change the nature or avert the mischiefs of erroneous principles and injurious actions. It is a matter of history, that some of the greatest calamities of the church have flowed from principles and innovations introduced by good men, and with the best intentions.

And now, beloved brethren, we beseech you to unite with us in thanksgiving to God, for the harmony, and kind feeling and decision which have pervaded our deliberations and action, and for those widespread and exuberant effusions of the Spirit the past year, which, amid unusual sorrows, and fears of deserved judgments, have caused the tide of spiritual prosperity to flow deep and broad, the expression of sovereign mercy and the pledge of future love.

It is our desire and expectation that ye will persevere in well-doing, and not be seized with any sudden amazement, through manifold temptations and trials of your faith and patience, and that you will not be moved away from the gospel which ye have heard, and the "form of sound words" and salutary discipline, so influential in our past prosperity.

We exhort that fervent charity be maintained among you, and a spirit of prayer for the continued presence and power of the Holy Spirit, and devotedness to those labors which God especially employs for the promotion of revivals of religion, the great end of all means, and the comprehension of all spiritual good.

But while these things are faithfully done, we pray you that other duties of imperious obligation and urgent necessity be not neglected; particularly that your charity for Home and Foreign Missions, and the education of a holy ministry, and for all our long-cherished voluntary associations, be not suffered to decline, but rather to flow on with augmented power, and faith, and prayer.

That especial care be taken to send and sustain a full representation of the church, as a mean of a mutual communication of knowledge, the culture of confidence, and the production of wise counsels.

And now, brethren, we commend you to Him who "is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy," praying "that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will, in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might according to his glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness."

"Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which have loved us, and given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work."

SAM'L FISHER, *Moderator.*
ERSKINE MASON, *Stated Clerk.*

Philadelphia, May 25th, 1838.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION

WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, AND OF CORRESPONDING CHURCHES, DURING THE YEAR LAST PAST.

In presenting a summary of the dealings of God with our beloved Zion to all interested in her welfare, the General Assembly are compelled to state that, in consequence of the secession of a portion of our brethren from the Assembly, they have been deprived of the intelligence necessary to the com-

pleteness of the present statement. The presbyterial Narratives which have been presented, however, describe the afflictions and the triumphs of the church in sufficient number and interest to awaken the tenderest sorrow and the most grateful joy in the bosom of every friend of the Redeemer.

The facts of the present Narrative naturally ranged themselves into two classes—the inauspicious and the prosperous. In specifying the former, it is proper to notice

1. The disastrous effects of the unconstitutional and revolutionary movements of the Assembly of 1837.

It is not to be expected that in a land known as Freedom's home, usurpation and violence should be exercised by such a body upon any subject without exciting public attention, and arousing some opposition. But when the annihilation of the ecclesiastical relations and rights of 500 ministers and 60,000 private Christians—all of whom were and are, as we have good reason to believe, uncorrupt in doctrine, constitutional in order, scriptural in discipline, and unimpeachable in personal character—was seriously attempted—when the ecclesiastical scimitar was lifted to decapitate all these at a single blow, without even the formality of a trial; the startling conviction became deep and general that despotism had really planted itself within the walls of Zion, resistance to whose attempts was an imperative though unpleasant duty.

The consequences of this general conviction have been most disastrous—for, while the chief attention of many ministers and churches has, as hereunto, been devoted to appropriate effort for the salvation of men, that of the great majority has been absorbed by the inquiry—what these new exigencies demanded at our hands. Thus the thought, and prayer, and effort have been given to the repairing the breaches in our wall, which should have been appropriated to the cultivation of the garden it enclosed. Hence, doubtless, some of the churches have been unproductive; and others have yielded far less fruit than they would have done in other circumstances, and in spite of, and not in concurrence with, the influence of the last Assembly.

(Several particulars are here omitted to make room for other matter.)

Let us briefly survey the auspicious events which are also interspersed in our annual history. Of these we ought to take cognizance.

Harmony of Churches.

1. Of the Christian harmony and confidence everywhere predominant among the churches represented in this house.

It is a fact, standing out prominently in all save one or two of the reports received to this body, that the churches under our care are a phalanx of brethren intelligently harmonious in views of Christian doctrine and duty, and inflexibly bent upon the advocacy of the one and the achievement of the other. We have already mentioned the prejudicial influence of the unconstitutional measures of the last Assembly, touching our Westerly Synods. We bless God, that in the grace of Him who can make the wrath of man to praise Him, and who restrains every particle of that which cannot be rendered subservient to this purpose, we may specify the advantageous influence of these measures upon individual churches and Presbyteries. Instead of being the wedge of discord to drive us asunder, they have proved the bond of union to compact us together. They have led churches and Presbyteries to forget little jealousies and sectional difficulties, which were beginning to spring up among them, and to think and pray, and act, on one common and endangered interest—preservation of the inalienable rights and privileges of the Lord's freemen. They have given the tie of a common persecution to a

suffering brotherhood. They have led to discussions in the South and North, in the East and West, which have cast great light on the early history of our Zion, diffused a great degree of intelligence concerning the peculiar excellencies of our constitution—its republican character and tendencies—and rallied Presbyteries and churches in defence of the rights and privileges which it guarantees. Thus mind has echoed to mind, and heart responded to heart, till unity of view and cordiality of affection have been reciprocally and extensively awakened—never again, we hope and pray, to be destroyed. We cannot but see in these events one fulfilment of prophetic vision as described in the following graphic language of the evangelical Prophet:—"Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the Lord be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed."—(Isaiah, lxvi. 5). We mention—

2. *The Order, Discipline, and Orthodoxy of the Churches.*

On these subjects there was a special need that our information should be accurate and extensive. The almost endless suspicions, inuendoes, and unsustained assertions that have been industriously circulated, and officially endorsed to discredit the honesty of that adhesion to the doctrinal standards, religious order, and careful discipline which the members of this Assembly and their peers, together with those of the churches under their supervision, have professed, and do still declare, called loudly for careful inquiry, and a distinct declaration of the truth. And from nearly every Presbytery here reported, the answer has come up distinct and full, that there is a careful vigilance in regard to doctrinal correctness, and a good degree of energy in the maintenance of scriptural order among our churches: and we hazard nothing by the assertion, that the orthodoxy and energy of our churches, sessions, and Presbyteries, touching these items, are not exceeded anywhere in the bounds of the visible church. We speak it not boastingly—but in gratitude to God and in justice to ourselves—that the imputations which have been cast upon many Presbyteries and churches are unfounded and calumnious. It is not denied that there have been individuals among us by whom erroneous views have been promulged, and injudicious measures for the salvation of men resorted to: but it is denied that the Presbyteries have sanctioned such instructions or tolerated such measures. They may not have been guilty of precipitancy in their zeal for the correction of errors—for they know whose policy it was to let tares, which cannot be plucked up without endangering the wheat at their side, grow until the proper season for ingathering and separation. They may not have been so careful in particular instances of licensure and ordination as they might and should have been; but it is believed that these instances, if any are to be found, have been very few, and not of recent occurrence. This General Assembly delight to bear this authorised testimony to the doctrinal purity, the scriptural order, and the careful discipline of these Presbyteries and churches. Nor may we omit to notice

3. *The Liberality of our Churches in Supporting the Benevolent Institutions of the Day.*

For notwithstanding our churches have not been able to give of their abundance during the past year, they have given liberally of their reduced means for the extension of the kingdom of our Lord and Master.

These benefactions have been bestowed chiefly upon the A. B. C. F. M., the Am. H. Missionary Soc., the Am. Bible, Education, Tract, Seamen's Friend and Bethel Societies, and the Central Am. Education Society. In

these associations, this Assembly have full confidence; and by specific resolutions, have commended them to the prayers and patronage of the churches.

Nor may we forget to make mention

4. *Of the Efforts of the Church for her own Perpetuity and Advancement.*

It is delightful to contemplate the cheering intelligence which is poured upon us from every quarter, indicating the labors and sacrifices which have been made for the subversion of error and immorality, and the triumph of pure Christianity. The cause of Temperance, while in many places it has languished, has in others nobly advanced; and it is a fact cheering to the Assembly, that the churches, and society generally, are coming to the just conclusion, that the doctrine of total abstinence from every beverage that intoxicates, is the only solid basis on which this reformation can be universally and surely established. Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes have received due care and attention; and have, as a whole, been greatly prospered; very many pupils in both have, in the judgment of charity, been brought savingly to the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus Christ. Maternal Associations seem to be greatly on the increase; and their great utility in awakening the interest of parents for the instruction, government, and salvation of children, as well as aiding parents themselves in their efforts for the attainment of these ends, seem to be more highly appreciated than they have previously been. Several Presbyteries report that a deepening interest is felt within their respective bounds, in the duty and advantages of household consecration. Not a few inform us that the ministers are generally in the habit of sustaining a catechetical exercise for the particular benefit of the baptized children of the church—using as their text-book in this service, the Assembly's catechism. In many of our cities and large villages, the monthly distribution of Tracts has been prosecuted with vigor, and crowned with success. Many Presbyteries report successful aggressions upon the sin of licentiousness. A zeal for universal freedom, supposed by some to be indiscreet, seems to be gradually changing to an enlightened and appropriate sympathy for the oppressed, and augmented prayer in their behalf. Battles, long fought with the Man of Sin, in various parts of our country—fought in love and by light—appear to have terminated in conquests which declare, in no doubtful terms, that his time is short. Weekly lectures and prayer meetings are generally well sustained. Female prayer meetings are reported by many of the Presbyteries as the efficient promoters of spirituality in the churches; and the Monthly Concert of Prayer is generally observed. The Theological Seminary at Auburn, and that in the city of New York, and that in Lane Seminary, Cincinnati, are reported by the Presbyteries within whose bounds they are respectively located, as becoming more and more the fountains of sound erudition,—the nurseries of sacred enterprise.

The Theological department of the Western Reserve College is now in prosperous and successful operation, having two able Professors wholly devoted to the instruction of pupils, and a basis for great and permanent enlargement.

No returns have been made to the General Assembly from the Seminary at Princeton—the Union Seminary in Virginia—the South-west Theological Seminary at Maryville, or the Western Theological Seminary at Pittsburg. The Presbytery of Clinton reports the establishment of a college within its bounds, from which great good to the church and the world is confidently anticipated. Our hearts have been gladdened by the accounts of our westerly Presbyteries, especially those in the States of Michigan and Illinois—which describe the efforts they are making for the increase of our body, and

the outspreading of the curtains of our habitations. We must again commend the devoted spirit of those beloved brethren who have planted themselves on those uncultivated and uninviting fields of ministerial labor. Nor can we fail to express our sincere compassion for those who have none to break to them the bread of life; and we would earnestly direct the attention of the people of God among us to the great importance of Domestic Missions, as indispensably necessary to the retention of the ground which these beloved brethren have already acquired, and to the extension of our western Zion with the rapid march of increasing population.

Many facts have been named to the Assembly, which indicate that the spirit of enterprise has not been crushed by our internal difficulties and external trials. The Assembly cannot but notice with especial commendation the illustration of this spirit in the church of St. Louis. This church has, in the last year, contributed $5,000 to advance the cause of the Redeemer, besides $2,000 for the support of its own ministry; has resolved on the organization of one church in the northern, and another in the southern part of that city; and, for the maintenance of laborers in these new fields, it has contributed $3,000. To our wealthy churches, the Assembly take leave to say, "Go thou and do likewise," and speedily "the wilderness shall bud and blossom as the rose."

The Assembly are very happy in being able to speak also with much hope, that the time is near at hand when the redemption of the Sabbath of God from its long desecration, will be completely effected. There is an increasing strictness in some of our church sessions in regard to this class of delinquents. Without any attack upon private interests, several Sabbath-keeping lines of boats upon the Erie canal, and steamboats upon our Western Mediterranean, have sprung into being. The conviction, already extensive, that the moral restraints which the Sabbath brings with it, are indispensable to the maintenance of common honesty among those operatives to whom is entrusted the transmission of property, is becoming more deep and widespread. Sailors and boatmen also begin to understand that the Sabbath is, by inalienable right, their day of rest; and not a few are found who will not submit to their exactions, who claim seven days' service for six days' wages. We sincerely hope that the influences which are already beginning to be felt, will not cease to operate till they work out the general redemption of this hallowed day from its long-tolerated profanation.

REVIVALS.

But the richest blessing is yet to be acknowledged, and the fullest encouragement is yet to be named. It is,

5. The outpouring of the Spirit of God on a large number of the congregations belonging to represented Presbyteries.

It has been the privilege of no General Assembly in many previous years, to report so many and extensive revivals of religion as the present. We were not ignorant, when we came up hither, that God had wrought gloriously among us in the last year; but we are greatly and agreeably surprised by the various and rich displays of his grace, of which our ears have heard, and in which our souls have been refreshed. Among those congregations in which the gospel has been eminently clothed with a divine power to awaken, melt, and renew the hearts of sinners, we mention Bolton, Glenn's Falls, Whitehall, Schaghticoke Point, Salem, 1st Free Congregation of Lansingburg, and 1st Congregation of Troy, in the Presbytery of Troy; the 1st Congregation in Hudson, the congregations in Durham, the congregations in Valatie, Windham Centre, Rensselaerville, Malden, and Centreville, in the

Presbytery of Columbia; the congregations in Wampsville, Lenox, Peterboro, Fayetteville, Manlius, Lafayette, Syracuse, and Lysander, in the Presbytery of Onondaga; the 1st and 2d congregations in Utica and Rome, the congregations in Augusta and Litchfield, in the Presbytery of Oneida; the congregations in Cooperstown, Springfield, Fly Creek, Cherry Valley, and Butternuts, in the Presbytery of Otsego; the congregations in Waterloo, Junius, Galen, Geneva, Phelps, Huron, Palmyra, Middlesex, Penn Yan, Branchport, and Canandaigua, in the Presbytery of Geneva; several congregations in the Presbytery of Chenango; the congregations in Auburn, Jordan, and Marcellus 3d, in the Presbytery of Cayuga; the congregations in Cuba, Centreville, Franklinville, Hunt's Hollow, and Rushford, in the Presbytery of Angelica; the congregations in Homer and Preble, in the Presbytery of Cortland; most of the congregations in the Presbytery of Tioga; the congregations in Kennedyville, Dundee, Prattsburg, Howard, Wheeler, Pultney, and Bath, in the Presbytery of Bath; several congregations in the Presbytery of Chemung; the congregations in Hinckley and Bath, in the Presbytery of Medina; one congregation in the Presbytery of Delaware; the congregations in Livonia, Richmond, and West Bloomfield, Geneseo 1st, Sparta 2d, Mount Morris 1st and 2d, in the Presbytery of Ontario; the congregations in Fulton and Oswego 2d, in the Presbytery of Oswego; four congregations in Rochester and that in Chili, in the Presbytery of Rochester; 23 congregations in the Presbytery of Buffalo; most of the churches in the 3d Presbytery of New York; the 1st and 2d congregations in Orange, the 1st, 2d, 3d, Central, 1st Free and Colored congregations of Newark, the congregations in Caldwell, Rockaway, Bloomfield, and Patterson, in the Presbytery of Newark; the congregations in Warsaw, Leroy, Castile, Attica, Bethany, and Gainesville, in the Presbytery of Genesee; most of the congregations in Philadelphia—particularly those of Fairmount, Kensington, the 3d, the 11th, the Western, and the 1st in Reading, in the Third Presbytery of Philadelphia; the congregation in Wilmington, in the Presbytery of Wilmington; one congregation in the Presbytery of Portage; six congregations in the Presbytery of Maumee; the congregations in Bricksville, Ohio City and Newberg, in the Presbytery of Cleveland; the congregations in Amherst and Elyria, in the Presbytery of Lorain; six congregations in the Presbytery of Huron; five congregations in the Presbytery of Cincinnati; several congregations in the Presbytery of Erie; five congregations in the Presbytery of Detroit; the congregations in Jonesville and Waterloo, in the Presbytery of Marshall; three congregations in the Presbytery of Munroe; the congregations in Kalamazoo, Richland, and Coldwater, in the Presbytery of St. Joseph's; the congregation in Kensington, in the Presbytery of Marion; the congregations in Juliet, Union, and Mechanic's Grove, in the Presbytery of Ottawa; the congregations in Jacksonville, Carrolton, Apple Creek and Manchester, in the Presbytery of Illinois; the congregations in Jackson and Chester, in the Presbytery of Athens; eight congregations in the Presbytery of Peoria; the church of Alton and Collinsville, in the Presbytery of Alton; several churches in the Presbytery of St. Louis; several churches in the Presbytery of Sangamon; most of the congregations in the Presbytery of Clinton; and the congregation of Crawfordsville, in the Presbytery of Crawfordsville.

In all these instances, the work of the Holy Spirit has been conducted according to the sovereignty of his operations, exhibiting great variety in the time, manner and extent of his influences. In some cases, revivals have been connected with some specialty of effort for the good of Zion; in others, they have attended the customary preaching of the word. In one place the

Spirit of God has seized the proud and infidel scoffer, who, like Goliath, defied the armies of the living God, and cast him in tears and prayers before the cross of the despised Nazarene, a humble suppliant for mercy; in another, it has bowed to the dust in trembling anxiety, the gentle, the moral, the self-righteous of this world, showing them the depth of their before unknown pollution, and the treasures of wrath and grace that centre in God. The aggregate number of churches in which revivals are reported is 234—calculating five for every presbytery which reports "several," instead of a definite number, excepting the 3d Presbyteries of New York and Philadelphia, which are reckoned at ten. Of the 234 revivals, 156 have occurred within the limits of the synods disowned by the last Assembly, and the Presbytery of Philadelphia, dissolved by the same authority. In the aspect of this bright fact, well may these churches, while they exclaim in humble gratitude, "Not unto us, not unto us, but unto thy name be all the glory," look up with humble confidence to the throne of the heavenly grace, and reverently declare, "Surely thou art our Father, though Abraham be ignorant of us, and Israel acknowledge us not." And in view of all these rich manifestations of Jehovah's love at this peculiar crisis, it becomes all the churches of Jesus Christ to banish fear and unbelief, to become the living temples of the living God, in which Jehovah shall be both resident and worshipped, and to pray and labor with an untiring devotion to His interests till the rock which was hewn out of the mountain without hands becomes itself a great mountain, filling the whole earth, or they are permitted to exchange the toils and sins of earth for the quiet and holiness of heaven.

The General Assembly have received the assurances of the cordial sympathy of the ministers and churches connected with the General Association of Connecticut with unfeigned and grateful regard. Especially do we rejoice in the rich effusions of His Spirit, with which God has visited very many of their churches—enjoyed under no new or extraordinary measures, but afforded as the rich blessing of God upon the labors of stated pastors and their co-operating churches. The Theological Department of Yale College, and the Seminary at East Windsor, have an aggregate of 117 students. That shades of difference in prevailing theological views may be soon forgotten in works of faith and labors of love is our ardent prayer.

From the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island we are gratified to learn that a more than ordinary attention to religious interests has been prevailingly manifested—that the great benevolent enterprises of the day receive cheerful and increasing support—and that entire harmony in doctrine and feeling prevails among the ministers and churches of the Consociation. One fact, reported by the reverend delegate from this body, deserves to be recorded for the instruction and encouragement of faithful wives and mothers. He informs us that a Maternal Association is to be found in one of their churches composed of 70 mothers—the husbands of nine of whom have professed religion in the past year, together with twenty of their children. We rejoice with the dear brethren of this Consociation in the advancement of the cause of evangelical truth within their bounds.

In conclusion, the Assembly assure their brethren, that the review of the past and the aspect of the present, so far from awakening despondency, rebukes all our unbelief, excites our deepest gratitude, and ministers rich encouragement. Never has Jehovah more signally interposed for the deliverance and comfort, the increase and glory of his church, than in the past year. We have known, once more, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity, while they contemplate the majesty, power and grace of God, as he leads his people through hosts of enemies, straits of

difficulty, and seas of iniquity, amidst their songs of triumphant praise, to the land of promise and of rest. Brethren, it becomes us to be awake to every duty, and grow in every grace. The time is short. God's word declares it; and the vacant places of endeared brethren who have just rested from their labor confirms it.

Especially does the grave of the lamented Patterson speak to us. He was a man of God—full of the Holy Ghost and of prayer; but neither the piety of his soul, nor the fidelity of his labors could save him from the grasp of death; and it will not be long before those hearts which are now thrilled by emotions of benevolence and those voices which now pronounce the messages of divine mercy, will be still and silent in the grave. But blessed be God, though Zion's watchman die, Zion herself lives; and that neither the gates of hell nor the arrow of death can at all impede her majestic march to universal triumph. The day hastens when, unbroken by divisions, uncorrupted by error, unspotted by sin, she shall rest in the bosom of Jesus. God's word and his providence then, unite in bidding us consecrate every affection of our hearts, every faculty of our minds, and every power of our bodies, to that grand enterprise in which we are engaged; and "we know that our labor shall not be in vain in the Lord."

Resolved 1. That it be earnestly recommended to all the churches under the care of the General Assembly to observe, in connection with other denominations of Christians, the first Monday in January next as a day of Humiliation, and Prayer for the revival of vital and practical religion throughout Christendom, and for the conversion of the world.

Resolved 2. That each minister within our bounds be requested, on the Sabbath previous, to preach on some subject having a direct reference to the conversion of the world.

Resolved 3. That all evangelical denominations of Christians throughout the world be invited to unite with us in this concert.

SAM'L FISHER, *Moderator.*
ERSKINE MASON, *Stated Clerk.*

[The Appendix for 1838 closes with the statement, "The statistical reports will be printed and forwarded as soon as possible." The reports were not printed until 1839.]

MINUTES, 1839.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian Church in the City of Philadelphia, on the third Thursday of May, 1839, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and was opened with a Sermon by the Rev. Samuel Fisher, D. D., Moderator of the last Assembly, from Mat. xi. 25 and 26, "At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of Heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in thy sight!"

After public worship, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions reported, that the following persons present had been duly appointed Commissioners to this General Assembly, viz.:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Londonderry.		
Newburyport,	1*Edwin Holt.	
Champlain,	William F. Curry.	
Troy,	Jonathan H. Noble,	Samuel Hitchcock,
	Leonard Johnson,	Henry R. Hubble.
Albany,	Charles Wadsworth,	Timothy Fassett.
Columbia,	Seth Williston, D. D.,	Orin Day,
	2 Thomas M. Smith,	Lawrence Vandyke.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

St. Lawrence,	Simeon Bicknell.	
Watertown,	Calvin Yale,	Adoniram Foote.
Oswego,	Lemuel Dady,	John E. Dutton.
Oneida,	Moses C. Searle,	Alvan Stewart,
	Alfred Hough,	Ezra Wood.
Otsego,	Alfred E. Campbell,	Albert North.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

Geneva,	Lucas Hubbell,	Jesse Smith,
	Maltby Gelston,	Luther Redfield.
Chenango,	Jeremiah Woodruff.	
Onondaga,	Alvah Day,	John McVicar.
Cayuga,	William Wisner,	Dixon C. Hazen,
	Josiah Hopkins,	Salem Towne.
Tioga,	Luther Clark,	Joseph A. Beecher. [4]

*The figures attached to the names, denote the days on which the Members took their seats, not having been previously enrolled by the Clerks.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Cortland,	Peter Lockwood,	William Elder.
Bath,	B. Foster Pratt,	Lorenzo Clark.
Delaware,	Archibald Bassett,	Edgar M. Gregory.
Chemung,	Daniel B. Butts,	John Selover.
	IV. SYNOD OF GENESEE.	
Genesee,	Selden Haynes,	Samuel Warner.
Ontario,	1 Merit Harman,	Reuben Sleeper.
Rochester,	C. E. Furman,	Benjamin Campbell,
	George Beecher,	Philip Thurbur.
Niagara,	John Elliot.	
Buffalo,	1 M. N. Miles,	Wesley Brown,
	1 B. B. Gray,	1 Amos Callendar.
Angelica,	Benjamin Russell,	Sumner Davidson.
	V. SYNOD OF NEW-YORK.	
Hudson,	William Timlow,	Heman Rowley,
	Isaac C. Beach,	1 Joseph Chandler.
North River,	John Silliman,	Thomas Young.
New-York, 2d,	Henry A. Rowland,	S. F. Clarkson.
New-York, 3d,	Erskine Mason, D. D.,	E. H. Kimball,
	Asa D. Smith,	John L. Mason.
Bedford.		
Long Island.		
Long Island, 2d.		
New-York.		
Brooklyn,	Samuel H. Cox, D. D.,	David Leavitt.
	VI. SYNOD OF NEW-JERSEY.	
Newark,	Samuel Fisher, D. D.,	John Nicoll,
	Gideon N. Judd,	Silas Riggs.
Elizabethtown.		
New Brunswick.		
Newton.		
Susquehanna.		
Montrose,	Sylvester Cook,	William Root.
	VII. SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.	
Philadelphia.		
Newcastle.		
Baltimore.		
	VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.	
Wilmington,	E. W. Gilbert,	Frisby Henderson.
Lewes,	Isaac W. K. Handy,	Elisha D. Cullen.
Philadelphia, 2d.		[5]
Philadelphia, 3d,	Anson Rood,	P. F. Smith,
	Robert Adair,	William Darling.
Carlisle.		
Huntingdon.		
Northumberland.		

IX. SYNOD OF PITTSBURG.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Blairsville.		
Redstone.		
Washington.		
Ohio.		
Alleghany.		
Steubenville.		
Beaver.		
Erie,	2 George A. Lyon,	William Townsend.

X. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

Grand River,	Warren Swift.	
Portage,	Jedediah C. Parmelee, Joseph Treat,	Elisha Beach.
Huron,	Alfred Newton.	
Maumee,	1 James H. Francis.	
Turnbull,	Charles A. Boardman.	
Lorain,	Daniel W. Lathrop,	Henry Brown.
Cleveland,	1 Harvey Blodget,	Stephen Whitaker.
Medina,	Joel Goodell.	

XI. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

Detroit,	George Duffield.	
Monroe,	C. P. Wing,	Charles Noble.
St. Josephs,	Christopher Cory.	
Marshall,	Elias Child,	Stephen North.
Washtenaw,	Ira M. Wead,	Abijah Marvin.
Kalamazoo,		Edwin M. Colt.

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

Athens,	Hiram R. Howe,	Asa W. Isham.
Columbus.		
Lancaster,	George W. Warner,	Abram Hillyer.
Wooster.		
Richland.		
Marion,	Franklin Putnam,	Silas G. Strong.

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

Cincinnati,	Baxter Dickinson. D. D., Clavin E. Stowe, D. D.	[6]
Chilicothe.		
Miami.		
Oxford.		
Sidney.		
Ripley,	John Rankin.	
Dayton,	George Foot.	

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

Salem,	P. S. Cleland.	
Vincennes.		
Madison,	James H. Johnston.	
Crawfordsville,	Wm. W. Woods,	Milton W. Hensley.
Indianapolis.		
Logansport.		

XV. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Illinois,	Ralph W. Gridley.	
Kaskaskia.		
Sangamon,		Luther N. Ransom.
Ottawa,	Augustus Pomeroy,	Philo Carpenter.
Schuyler,	Latin W. Dunlap,	John McCoy.
Palestine.		
Peoria,	Lucien Farnam.	
Alton,	1 F. W. Graves.	
Knox,	1 George W. Gale,	Charles W. Gilbert.

XVI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

Missouri.
St. Louis.
St. Charles.

XVII. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

Louisville.
Muhlenburg.
Transylvania.
West Lexington.
Ebenezer.

XVIII. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

Lexington.		
Winchester,	2 John J. Royall,	4 Dr. John Quigley.
Dist. of Columbia,	William Hill, D. D.,	David M. Wilson.
Hanover,	A. D. Pollock,	James Caskie.
West Hanover.		

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XIX. SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Roanoke.
Orange.
Fayetteville.
Concord.
Morgantown.

XX. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

Abingdon.		
Union,	Alex. McGhee, M. D.,	Robert McLain.
French Broad.		
Holston,	George Dunham,	Samuel Rhea.
Hiwassee,	Thomas Brown.	
New River,	David F. Palmer.	

XXI. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

West Tennessee.
Nashville.
Shiloh.
North Alabama.
Western District.

XXII. SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
South Carolina.		
Bethel.		
Harmony.		
Charleston Union.		
Georgia.		
Hopewell.		
Flint River.		

XXIII. SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

South Alabama.		
Tuscaloosa.		
Tombeckbee.		

XXIV. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

Mississippi.		
Clinton.	Jesse Stratton.	
Arkansas.		
Louisiana.		[8]

The Committee further reported, that the Commission of Mr. David M. Wilson, a Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of the District of Columbia, wants the signature of the Clerk; and that the Rev. F. W. Graves, of the Presbytery of Alton, is without a regular commission, but has presented a certificate of his election from the Stated Clerk of that Presbytery.

These cases were referred to Messrs. Judd, Lathrop and Rood, as a *Committee of Elections.* The Committee reported favorably; and at their recommendation the names of Messrs. Wilson and Graves were inserted on the Roll.

The Assembly had a recess till half-past 3 o'clock, P. M., to meet after recess in the Lecture Room.

At half-past 3 o'clock the Assembly met at the Lecture Room.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional members, who appeared and took their seats, viz.: the Rev. George W. Gale, from the Presbytery of Knox; Rev. Harvey Blodget, from the Presbytery of Cleveland; Rev. Merit Harman, from the Presbytery of Ontario; the Rev. James H. Francis, from the Presbytery of Maumee; Mr. William Darling, a Ruling Elder, from the third Presbytery of Philadelphia; the Rev. M. N. Miles, and Rev. B. B. Gray and Mr. Amos Callendar, a Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Buffalo.

They also reported the case of Mr. Joseph Chandler, a Ruling Elder, from the Presbytery of Hudson, who had lost his Commission; and also the case of the Rev. A. D. Pollock and Mr. James Caskie, a Ruling Elder, from the Presbytery of Hanover, a Presbytery which, it did not appear, had been constituted by any Synod.

These cases were referred to the Committee of Elections. They reported that there was satisfactory evidence of the election of Mr. Chandler, and he was admitted to his seat accordingly.

The Rev. Baxter Dickinson, D. D., was chosen Moderator, and the Rev. Henry A. Rowland was chosen Temporary Clerk.

Dr. Cox, Dr. Williston and Mr. Rankin were appointed a Committee to report on the subject of Rules for this body.

The Rev. Edwin Holt, a Commissioner from the Presbytery of Newbury-

port, was permitted to make a statement; after which he took his seat as a member.

The Committee on Rules made the following report, which was adopted: "1. That the former moiety of Rule 22nd be omitted, and the latter moiety be attached to rule 21st. 2. That every thing in the Rules appended to the Constitution of our Church, be adopted as the Rules of this Assembly, except whatever and every thing in them in reference to the Previous Question, all of which is omitted."

The printed Minutes of the last General Assembly were distributed to the members.

On motion, it was *Resolved* unanimously, That a Committee of three be appointed to wait on Dr. Fisher, and request a copy of his Sermon delivered at the opening of this Assembly, for the press; and if obtained, that the Committee superintend the publication of an edition of 1500 copies. Dr. Hill, Dr. Mason and Mr. Alvan Stewart were appointed that Committee.

The Clerks were authorized to procure the printing of a suitable number of copies of the Roll, (including the Standing Committees), for the use of the Assembly. [9]

Resolved, That the following Committees be appointed: 1. The Judicial Committee. 2. A Committee on Bills and Overtures. 3. On Mileage. 4. On the Narrative of the State of Religion. 5. On Devotional Exercises. 6. On Leave of Absence.

Resolved, That it be the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, to elect a Treasurer for the Assembly. The following persons were nominated to this office: Mr. Ambrose White and Mr. Thomas Fleming of Philadelphia, and Mr. David Leavitt of Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday Morning, May 17, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported as additional members, the Rev. Thomas M. Smith, from the Presbytery of Columbia, and the Rev. George A. Lyon, from the Presbytery of Erie, who appeared and took their seats.

The Moderator announced the appointment of the following Committees:

Judicial Committee.—Dr. Fisher, Dr. Hill, Messrs. Duffield, Gridley, Rood, J. L. Mason and Stewart.

On *Bills and Overtures.*—Dr. Cox, Mr. Wisner, Dr. Stowe, Messrs. Rankin, Judd, Day and Towne.

On *Mileage.*—Messrs. Leavitt, P. F. Smith and Henry Brown.

On the *Narrative.*—Messrs. A. D. Smith, Lathrop, Hopkins, Graves and McGhee.

On *Devotional Exercises.*—Mr. Adair, Dr. Williston and Mr. George Foote.

On *Leave of Absence.*—Messrs. George Beecher, Cook, Silliman, Darling and Nicol.

Mr. Judd, from the Committee of Elections, made a report in relation to the Commissioners from the Presbytery of Hanover, which was considered and adopted, and is as follows:

After a full investigation of the facts in reference to the case of the Rev. A. D. Pollock, and Mr. James Caskie, Elder, Commissioners to this Assembly, from the Presbytery of Hanover, the Committee have come to the following results, viz.:

1. That as a majority of the Presbytery of East Hanover had declared their adherence to a body, claiming to be the General Assembly of the Pres-

byterian Church, which by its palpable violations of the constitution of said church, had forfeited all claim to the appellation, the minority might have retained the name of the Presbytery of East Hanover.

2. Since they forebore to do this from courtesy to their brethren of the majority, and peaceably retired and assumed the name of the Presbytery of Hanover, without the agency of Synod, this deviation from the ordinary usages of our church, ought not, in their peculiar circumstances, to invalidate their organization.

3. The Committee therefore recommend the recognition by this Assembly of the Presbytery of Hanover, as a constituent part of the Presbyterian Church in these United States, the enrolment of the names of said Commissioners on the list of its members, and that this Assembly determine the Synodical relations of said Presbytery. [10]

Receiving the reports of Presbyteries on the state of religion was made the order of the day for Monday morning; and it was agreed that the reports should be read, and that the reports of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies should be made at the same time.

The election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies was made the order of the day for Tuesday morning.

The order of the day, the election of a Treasurer of the General Assembly, was taken up, and the subject was indefinitely postponed; and the collections for the Contingent and Commissioners' funds were ordered to be paid into the hands of the Stated Clerk.

Dr. Cox, from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported No. 1 and 2, on the subject of erecting a Synod of Newark.

Also, Overture No. 3, a memorial from the Presbytery of Ripley, Ohio, on the subject of Slavery, on which the Committee made a report, recommending a method of proceeding, in case the Assembly should take order on the subject. The consideration of the Overture and Report thereon was postponed till Tuesday next.

Overtures No. 1 and 2, two memorials from the Presbyteries of Newark and Montrose, requesting the erection of a new Presbytery, by the name of the Presbytery of Rockaway, and also the erection of a new Synod, by the name of the Synod of Newark, were taken up for consideration, and the following Resolutions were adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That the Presbytery of Newark be divided into two Presbyteries, and that the Ministers and Churches within the city of Newark and the townships of Patterson, Bloomfield and Orange, together with the Rev. Samuel Fisher, D. D., Rev. Gideon N. Judd, and Rev. Henry A. Axtell, be and remain the Presbytery of Newark; and that the remaining Ministers and Churches belonging to the Presbytery of Newark, be, and they hereby are, erected into a new Presbytery, to be called the "Presbytery of Rockaway."

2. *Resolved*, That the Presbytery of Newark, meet in the 3rd Presbyterian Church in Newark, on the second Tuesday in June next, at 4 o'clock P. M., to transact any business which may become necessary in consequence of the division of said Presbytery, and that the last Moderator preside until a new Moderator be chosen.

3. *Resolved*, That the Presbytery of Rockaway meet in the church in Parsippany, on the third Tuesday in June next, at 3 o'clock P. M., to be opened with a Sermon by the Rev. Barnabas King, or, in case of his absence, by the oldest Minister present, who shall preside until a new Moderator be chosen.

4. *Resolved*, That the Ministers and Congregations belonging to the Presbyteries of Newark, Rockaway, and Montrose be, and they hereby are,

set off from the Synod of New Jersey, and erected into a new Synod to be called the "Synod of Newark;" that they hold their first meeting in the First Presbyterian Church in Newark, on the 3rd Tuesday in October next, at 3 o'clock P. M., and be opened with a Sermon by the Rev. Asa Hillyer, D. D., or, in case of his absence, by the oldest Minister present, who shall preside till a new Moderator be chosen; and that they meet afterward on their own adjournment.

And *whereas*, it is understood that the Synod of New Jersey at their last meeting, renounced the authority of this General Assembly, and declared their adherence to a different Body, therefore,

Resolved, That the territory heretofore comprehended within the bounds of the Synod of New Jersey, be attached to the Synod of Newark; [11] and that if any of the Presbyteries heretofore belonging to the Synod of New Jersey, shall choose to be connected with the Synod of Newark, the said Synod is hereby authorized to receive them.

Mr. Duffield, Dr. Fisher, and Mr. James H. Johnston, were appointed a Committee to prepare a Pastoral Letter to the churches.

Mr. Wisner, Dr. Hill, Mr. George Foote, Mr. Boardman and Mr. Caskie were appointed a Committee to prepare a Declaration, setting forth the present condition of the Presbyterian Church, and the causes which have induced it.

The Resolutions adopted by the last General Assembly, on the subject of the "Concert of Prayer for the Conversion of the World," on the first Monday in January, were re-adopted, with the recommendation that Fasting be a part of the exercises of the day; and that the day be hereafter observed annually.

The Committee appointed by the last Assembly (Minutes, p. 661) to prepare a Complete Digest of all the important acts of past General Assemblies, reported progress and were continued.

Adjourned till half-past three o'clock this P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, P. M., half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

On motion, the calling of the Roll in the afternoons was dispensed with.

The Minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

The Rev. John J. Royall presented a Commission from the Presbytery of Winchester and took his seat as a member.

The Permanent Clerk reported that there had been put into his hands a Document purporting to be an "Appeal and Complaint of Lewis Tappan from a decision of the 3rd Presbytery of New-York."

On motion it was referred to the Judicial Committee.

A letter from the Rev. Reuben Taylor, in reference to an appeal from a decision of the Synod of the Western Reserve, in case of a Complaint against the Presbytery of Medina, was read and committed to the Judicial Committee.

Dr. Cox, from the Committee of Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 8, a petition from the Chemung Presbytery, in reference to the Plan of Union. Ordered to be read.

Overture No. 5, from the Synod of New-York, in reference to the Previous Question.

Overture No. 4 and 6, from the Presbytery of Clinton, on Changes of the Constitution.

Overture No. 12, from the Presbytery of Erie, on the subject of connecting them with some Synod. Entered on the docket.

Overture No. 7, from the Presbytery of Montrose, on Slavery. Entered on the docket.

Overtures No. 9, 10, 11 and 13, Memorials from different Presbyteries on Slavery. Ordered, that they receive the same direction with Overture No. 3, from the Presbytery of Ripley.

The Appeal of the 2nd Church of Newark, Ohio, from a decision of the Synod of Ohio, laid over from the last General Assembly, was taken up, and the documents referring to it were committed to the Judicial Committee. [12]

Mr. Heman Rowley had leave of absence from the remaining sessions of this Assembly.

Mr. Adair, from the Committee to make arrangements for devotional exercises, made a report recommending,

1. That the sacrament of the Lord's Supper be administered in this church on the next sabbath at 5 o'clock P. M. 2. That a preparatory sermon be delivered on Saturday evening, at a ¼ before 8 o'clock, and that Dr. Williston be requested to preach said sermon. 3. That the Moderator introduce the Sacramental service with an address and prayer and dispense the bread. 4. That Dr. Hill dispense the Cup, accompanied with an exhortation. 5. That Dr. Mason return thanks. read the concluding hymn, and pronounce the apostolic benediction. The report was adopted.

Copies of Abbreviated Creeds, ordered by the last Assembly to be sent up to this Assembly, were called for, and committed to Messrs. Hopkins, Haynes and Pollock to report on the subject.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed on the State of the Church, to consist of 5 members.

The answers of Presbyteries to the Overture sent down by the last Assembly (Minutes, p. 656) in reference to stopping Appeals, in ordinary cases, at the Synods, were called for and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

The appointment of a place of meeting for the next General Assembly was made the order of the day for Monday morning next at half-past 9 o'clock.

Overture No. 12, was taken up and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

Overture No. 7, was taken up, and the consideration thereof postponed till Tuesday next.

The Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., was, on motion, unanimously appointed delegate to the Congregational Union of England and Wales, for the year 1840.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday Morning, May 18, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

Dr. Fisher, from the Judicial Committee, reported Documents from the Presbytery of Montrose, in the case of the Rev. Jenkin Jenkins, a Foreign Minister. The documents being such as the rule requires, permission was given to that Presbytery to receive him as a member.

The Moderator announced Dr. Hill, Dr. Mason, Dr. Stowe, Mr. Lathrop and Judge Darling as the *Committee on the State of the Church.*

The following Committees were appointed to examine the Records of the several Synods; viz.: on the Records of the Synod of

Albany.—Messrs. Lyon, Pomeroy, and Isham.

Utica.—Messrs. Lockwood, Cleland, and Ransom.
Geneva.—Messrs. Treat, Warner, and Wilson.
Genessee.—Messrs. Wing, Handy, and Riggs.
New-York.—Messrs. Gale, Dunham, and Whitaker.
New-Jersey.—Messrs. Timlow, Hough, and A. Foot.
Pennsylvania.—Messrs. T. M. Smith, Swift, and Chandler.
Pittsburg.—Messrs. Yale, Searle, and E. Wood. [13]
Western Reserve.—Messrs. Thomas Brown, Stratton, and Henderson.
Michigan.—Messrs. Holt, J. C. Beach, and Hitchcock.
Ohio.—Messrs. Campbell, Furman, and Hazen.
Cincinnati.—Messrs. Pratt, J. H. Noble, and J. A. Beecher.
Indiana.—Messrs. Putnam, Royall, and W. Brown.
Illinois.—Messrs. Hubbell, W. W. Woods, and S. North.
Virginia.—Messrs. Curry, L. Johnson, and Kimball.
Tennessee.—Messrs. Wadsworth, Farnam, and P. F. Smith.
Mississippi.—Messrs. Palmer, Harman, and Clarkson.

The Records were called for and put into the hands of the several Committees.

Dr. Fisher, from the Judicial Committee, reported the appeal and complaint of Lewis Tappan against the decision of the 3rd Presbytery of New-York, as in order. The report was accepted, and the subject was taken up for consideration. A motion was made to send it down to the Synod, for adjudication. After some discussion, the consideration of this motion was postponed till Wednesday next.

Dr. Cox, from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 14, Memorial from the Presbytery of Angelica on Slavery. The same direction was given to it as to Overture No. 3.

Mr. Adair, from the Committee on Devotional Exercises, made a further report, recommending that Monday next be observed as a day of fasting and supplication, in reference to the state of the Church; that the Assembly may be guided in all its deliberations, to such results as shall glorify God, and promote the spiritual prosperity of Zion; and that the exercises be as follows:

Monday morning to be spent in hearing the Presbyterial Narratives on the state of religion, intermingled with prayer and singing, at the discretion of the Moderator.

The afternoon, (service commencing at half-past 3 o'clock), to be spent in the reading of the Scriptures, singing, exhortation and prayer, in the following order:

1. Singing, reading a portion of Scripture and prayer, by Mr. Gilbert. 2. Exhortation by Mr. Curry. 3. Singing and prayer, by Mr. Rankin. 4. Exhortation by Mr. Wisner. 5. Singing and prayer, by Mr. George Beecher. 6. Exhortation by Dr. Cox. 7. Singing, prayer, and benediction, by Dr. Stowe. The report was adopted.

A communication was received from Thomas Bradford, Esq., President of the Board of Trustees of the Eastern Penitentiary, inviting the members of this Assembly to visit that Institution. The invitation was accepted, with thanks for the same.

Adjourned till Monday morning, 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

On Saturday evening, a quarter before 8 o'clock, a Lecture Preparatory to the sacrament was preached by the Rev. Dr. Williston; and on Sabbath, P. M., at 5 o'clock, the Lord's Supper was administered, in the First Presbyterian Church, to the members of the Assembly, and to a large congregation of Christian Brethren, according to the previous arrangement.

Monday Morning, May 20, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [14]

The order of the day, viz., the choice of a place for the next meeting of the Assembly, was taken up; when it was determined that the next meeting be held in the First Presbyterian Church in the city of Philadelphia.

Dr. Cox, from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 15, a memorial from the Church of Yates on slavery; which was, on their recommendation, referred with the other papers on the same subject for consideration on Tuesday next.

Also, Overture No. 16, on the Basis of Representation, which was read and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

The Assembly then proceeded to hear the Narratives of the Presbyteries on the state of religion, and the Reports of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

After which the Assembly adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock, this P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, P. M., half-past 3 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met in the First Presbyterian Church, and spent the afternoon till half-past 5 o'clock, in religious exercises, agreeably to previous arrangement.

After a recess, the Assembly resumed business. Dr. John Quigley, a Commissioner from the Presbytery of Winchester, appeared and took his seat.

Receiving reports of Committees on Synodical Records was made the order of the day for Thursday morning, half-past 9 o'clock.

Receiving the annual report of the Trustees of the Assembly, and of the several Boards of the Assembly, was made the order of the day for Wednesday, 11 o'clock.

Dr. Fisher, from the Judicial Committee, reported the case of Rev. Reuben Taylor, and recommended that it be dismissed for want of documents. The report was accepted and adopted.

Dr. Cox, from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 17, on the duty of Presbyteries and Sessions, towards disorderly seceders; and also, Overture No. 18, two questions in reference to the Monthly Concert of Prayer; both of which Overtures were referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

Also, Overture No. 20, memorial from the Presbytery of Oneida, on slavery. Referred as the other memorials on that subject.

Ordered, that the thanks of the Assembly be presented to the Association of the American Union, for a donation of sixty copies of the "Fraternal Appeal" of Dr. Schmucker on the subject; and that Dr. Dickinson, President E. Beecher, and Dr. Stowe, be a committee to report in reference to the same to the next Assembly.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday Morning, May 21, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding day were read and approved.

The rule of the Assembly requiring Commissioners to report their claims for Mileage before the close of the third day, was suspended for the present till the close of to-day.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 21, on the Legislative Powers of this house. Referred to the Committee on the State of the Church. [15]

The order of the day, viz., the consideration of Overture No. 3, and the report of the Committee of Overtures thereon, was taken up: when Mr. Caskie offered the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That no order or further action be taken on Overture No. 3, or on the other Overtures or Memorials relating to slavery, than to receive and lay the same on the table."

Mr. Rankin moved the postponement of the foregoing resolution, with a view to introduce a motion, that all the Memorials in relation to Slavery be read. Mr. Rankin's motion was carried.

The motion for reading the memorials was afterwards withdrawn. It was then moved that the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on this subject be adopted. The question was divided, and the first part, recommending an Interlocutory Meeting, was adopted; and the other part was rejected.

Overture No. 22, a memorial from the citizens of Philadelphia on the subject of Slavery, was reported, and referred as the other memorials on that subject.

The order of the day, viz., the choice of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, was postponed till to-morrow morning. The nomination of Delegates was made the order of the day for this afternoon.

Judge Darling, from the "Committee of Twelve," appointed by the last Assembly to superintend the suits at law, made a report of their proceedings in part. The report was accepted and the Committee continued. *Resolved*, that the report be published in the Appendix.

Dr. Hill, from the Committee appointed to request of Dr. Fisher a copy of his sermon, reported that the application had been acceded to on the part of Dr. Fisher.

The Assembly then held an Interlocutory Meeting on the subject of Slavery, until one o'clock; when the Interlocutory Meeting was concluded, and the Assembly proceeded to other business.

An invitation was received from the managers of the American Sunday School Union, to attend their anniversary this afternoon, at 4 o'clock. The invitation was accepted.

A communication was received from Rev. Mr. Armstrong, Secretary of the A. B. C. F. Missions, presenting 75 copies of the annual report of that society, for the use of the members of this Assembly.

Adjourned till half-past 3 o'clock, this P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, P. M., 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Mr. Hopkins, from the committee to whom was referred the subject of Abbreviated Creeds, made a report which was accepted, and laid on the table for the present.

Nominations were made of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

After which, the Assembly, at 4 o'clock, with a view to attend the Anniversary of the American Sunday School Union, adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday Morning, May 22, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [16]

The order of the day, viz.: the election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, was taken up; and Messrs. T. Brown and Luther Clark, were appointed a Committee to receive and count the votes.

Resolved, That the delegates to Corresponding Bodies be directed to invite a continuance of correspondence on the terms on which it has previously existed, irrespective of the decision of the legal question.

An Interlocutory Meeting was then held by the members of the Assembly on the subject of ecclesiastical action in reference to Slavery,—which continued till half-past 11 o'clock.

The Assembly then went out of the interlocutory state. Mr. George Beecher moved the appointment of a Committee to bring in a Report on the subject discussed in the interlocutory meeting.

Mr. Leavitt, moved the postponement of this motion, with a view to introduce another, to refer the matter to the lower Judicatories, to take such order relative thereto as they may deem expedient and proper. The motion to postpone was lost.

Dr. Stowe then moved that it be postponed with a view to introduce another motion, to send down an Overture to the Presbyteries, proposing to take away the appellate jurisdiction of the Assembly, and make the Synods the Judicatories of final appeal. This motion was also lost.

The subject of Dr. Stowe's Resolution was afterwards referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

Mr. Beecher's motion for the appointment of a Committee to bring in a Report on the subject of Slavery was carried. Dr. Fisher, Mr. Bassett, Mr. Duffield, Mr. Gridley, Mr. George Beecher, Mr. Leavitt, and Mr. P. F. Smith were appointed the Committee.

Mr. Brown, from the Committee appointed to count the votes, reported that the following persons were elected:

To the General Association of Connecticut, the Rev. Albert Barnes, the Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., and Rev. George Beecher.

To the General Association of Massachusetts, the Rev. Albert Barnes and Dr. Cox, Principals, and Rev. George Beecher, Alternate.

To the Evangelical Consociation of R. Island, Rev. George Beecher.

To the General Association of New Hampshire and Vermont, Rev. Daniel W. Lathrop, Principal, and Rev. Anson Rood, Alternate.

To the General Conference of Maine, Rev. Edwin Holt, Principal, and Rev. John Rankin, Alternate.

The order of the day, viz.: receiving the Reports of the several Boards of the Assembly, was taken up. The Report of the Board of Trustees of the Assembly, of the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton; of the Board of the Western Theological Seminary; of the Board of Missions; of the Board of Education; and of the Board of Foreign Missions were called for, and were not present.

A nomination was then made of Directors for the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and also for the Western Theological Seminary. The Election of these Directors was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning.

Resolved, That inasmuch as the General Assembly has received from the Boards of Missions, of Education, and of Foreign Missions, no reports for the present year, it is inexpedient to take any further action in relation to said Boards at this time.

Adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock, this P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [17]

Wednesday, P. M., half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

Mr. Lawrence Vandyke, a Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Columbia, appeared in the house, having lost his Commission. His case was referred to the Committee on Elections. Mr. Vandyke having satisfied the committee of his having been regularly appointed, he was on their recommendation, admitted to his seat.

The order of the day, viz.: the consideration of Mr. Rowland's motion to refer to the Synod of New-York, the adjudication of the Appeal of Lewis Tappan, was taken up. The motion to refer the case to Synod was lost. The Assembly then decided to hear the case.

The Moderator read the rule, enjoining on the members to recollect and regard their high character as judges of a court of Jesus Christ, and the solemn duty in which they were about to act.

The sentence appealed from; the reasons assigned by the appellant for his appeal and which were on record; and the proceedings of the inferior judicatories in the case, including the testimony, and the reasons of the Presbytery for their decision, were read—in part. After some progress the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday Morning, May 23, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Overtures No. 4 and 6 were reported and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

The judicial committee reported the appeal of the 2d Church of Newark, Ohio, against the Synod of Ohio, as unaccompanied by the proper documents, and therefore recommended that the appeal be dismissed. The report was adopted.

Mr. H. R. Hubbell and Mr. Lorenzo Clark had leave of absence from the remaining sessions of this Assembly.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz., the election of Directors for the Theological Seminary of Princeton, and for the Western Theological Seminary. Messrs. J. H. Noble and Blodget were appointed a committee to receive and count the votes.

The committee reported that the following persons were elected Directors for the Princeton Theological Seminary for 3 years, viz.:

Ministers.	*Elders.*
Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D.,	Ambrose White,
" Samuel Fisher, D. D.,	William Darling,
" T. M'Auley, D. D., LL. D.,	Benjamin Strong.
" William Adams,	
" Peter Kanouse,	
" Ansel D. Eddy,	
" Thomas Brainerd.	

And that the following were elected Directors of the Western Theological Seminary for 3 years, viz.: [18]

Ministers.	*Elders.*
Rev. Charles A. Boardman,	Henry Brown,
" Samuel C. Aikin,	Henry Manning,
" George A Lyon,	——— Edwards.
" Jedediah C. Parmelee,	
" David H. Riddle, D. D.,	
" Francis Herron, D. D.,	
" John Rankin.	

The Assembly proceeded to receive the reports on Synodical Records. The Records of the Synods of Albany, Utica, Geneva, Michigan, Ohio, Cincinnati and New-York, were approved.

The Records of the Synods of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, Western Reserve, Illinois, Virginia, Tennessee, Mississippi and New-Jersey were not present, and the Committees were discharged.

The report of the Committee on Abbreviated Creeds was taken up, amended, adopted and is as follows:

"The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Abbreviated Creeds, respectfully present the following report: 'We regret to say that it will not be in our power to present a report that shall exhibit the condition of our Church, in relation to the subject of Creeds, that shall embrace more than a small portion of our limits; as but few of the different creeds have been sent in at the call of the General Assembly. But as your committee have obtained, in connexion with the creeds that have been handed in, very full intelligence on the inquiry before us, concerning that part of the Church that has been charged with being so hopelessly heterodox as to justify its excision, without an effort constitutional or unconstitutional for its recovery, we will endeavor to present the result of our examinations before you.

We have examined the creeds recommended by the Presbyteries, and used by the churches on the admission of members, in the following Presbyteries: Huron, Maumee, Grand River, Trumbull, Lorain, Medina, Portage, Cleveland, Buffalo, Genessee, Rochester, Chemung, Angelica, Tioga, Bath, Cortland, Cayuga, Onondaga, Geneva, Ontario, Watertown, Oswego, St. Lawrence, Oneida and Otsego.

The creeds adopted by the churches in these Presbyteries are full on the following points, with the few exceptions that we shall hereafter name: That the Bible is given by inspiration of God, and is the foundation and guide of our belief in every thing that relates to doctrine or practice; the existence of a Trinity of Persons; the supreme Divinity of Jesus Christ; the universal providence and purposes of God; the total moral corruption of every heart by nature, in consequence of the apostacy of Adam; the doctrine of a full and ample atonement by Jesus Christ; personal election; regeneration by the spirit and grace of God; justification by faith in the Savior's blood; the certain perseverance of the saints; the unchangeable obligations of the law; the resurrection of the dead, both of the just and of the unjust; the final judgment with the endless punishment of the incorrigibly impenitent; the ordinance of Infant Baptism, and the duties of reading the word and of maintaining prayer by the leading head of every family; and the religious observance of the holy Sabbath.

With these principles as the basis of our examination, we have found the creeds adopted by these Presbyteries, and recommended to their churches, [19] with very few exceptions, full and sound to a gratifying extent. Two churches in the Presbytery of Oswego, we are told by the Stated Clerk, have endeavored to remove every thing from their creeds that is objectionable to an Arminian. Some of the churches in St. Lawrence Presbytery, we are told, have no form or epitome of doctrine that is used on the admission of members.

We have examined also a number of creeds adopted by individual churches, but they are churches within the above named presbyteries; and we need only to say that they are in perfect harmony with those of the presbyteries to which they belong. Some two or three others have been examined by the committee from other parts of the church, which, it is plain, were never designed to present an epitome of the system of truth, but merely as a form

of public consecration by adopting which candidates are received to the communion of the church.

After a somewhat careful examination of this subject, your Committee are prepared to say, that in their opinion it ought not to be expected that all the great and difficult doctrines of the Bible should be presented in any creed in as strong expressions as are often used by age and experience. When candidates are received to the church, they are in most cases, in experience and knowledge upon Christian doctrine, children; and children it cannot be expected will be able to step in the tracks of men of mature age. Still your Committee deem it desirable, for very obvious and important reasons, that wherever a creed is adopted and used in the admission of members, it should contain a distinct recognition of the leading doctrines of the Gospel, and especially such as are the objects of the decided opposition of the natural heart. If these doctrines are not presented to those who enter the door of the church, while it is known that we hold and defend them, we may be accused, and that justly, of deception; and we are in danger of admitting members to their own injury and the annoyance of the church; especially if the exhibitions of truth from our pulpits accord with our standards or with the Bible. Besides, there is little doubt, that these doctrines not unfrequently, when properly presented, do much towards determining by the feelings which they elicit, the character of the heart.

We are aware that the Confession of Faith does not require that any form or creed should be used in the admission of members; but as an important means of maintaining the purity of Gospel faith and practice, we would recommend, that all our Presbyteries be requested to examine this subject; and if forms are used by any of their churches, to look at their characters.

Especially, would we recommend that the Oswego Presbytery, and any others in which there may be churches that have altered their creeds, be enjoined to examine them, and if they find them defective, take the proper steps to correct them. We believe that the Presbyteries are the proper bodies to correct these evils; and we rejoice to know that many are actively and vigilantly engaged in this work."

Mr. Leavitt, from the Committee on Mileage, reported, that the cash received for the Commissioners' fund is $1140 38 cents; that the aggregate of miles travelled, adding 50 per cent. to all over 500 miles, is 58,437 miles; so that the dividend will be at the rate of one dollar and ninety-five cents per 100 miles.

The report was accepted and adopted, and the Committee were instructed to pay the commissioners accordingly. [20]

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz.: the appeal of Lewis Tappan, was resumed. The reading of the documents in the case was continued and completed. The original parties were then heard. Mr. Tappan commenced and made some progress, when the Assembly adjourned to 3½ o'clock this P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, P.M., 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Messrs. Hensley, Wadsworth and Fassett had leave of absence from the remaining sessions of this Assembly.

Mr. George Beecher, from the committee appointed to prepare a report on the subject of Slavery, presented the following:

"The committee to whom was referred the subject of Slavery, having

given to it that prayerful and deliberate consideration which the subject demands, beg leave respectfully to offer the following:

Whereas the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States did, in the year 1818, in the first clause of an article contained in the Digest, p. 341–2, respecting slavery, express clearly its views on this subject, therefore, *Resolved*, that we refer all action upon it to the lower judicatories, to take such order as, in view of the word of God, shall seem judicious and adapted to remove the evil."

While the report was under consideration, Dr. Fisher moved to amend by striking out all after the preamble before the word "Resolved." After much discussion, the question was taken by Ayes and Noes, and resulted as follows:

Ayes.—Holt, Curry, J. H. Noble. L. Johnson, Wadsworth, Williston, T. M. Smith, Vandyke, Bicknell, Yale, Dady, Searle, Hough, A. E. Campbell, L. Hubbell, Wisner, Luther Clark, Pratt, Jesse Smith, Hazen, Towne, J. A. Beecher, Lorenzo Clark, Haynes, B. Campbell, Callendar, Timlow, I. C. Beach, J. Silliman, Rowland, E. Mason, A. D. Smith, Cox, Chandler, Clarkson, J. L. Mason, Leavitt, Fisher, Judd, Nicoll, Root, E. W. Gilbert, Handy, Rood, Adair, Cullen, P. F. Smith, Darling, Townsend, Swift, Treat, Newton, Boardman, Lathrop, E. Beach, Cory, H. Brown, C. Noble, Putnam, Hillyer, Strong, Foot, Cleland, Hensley, Gridley, Dunlap, Graves, McCoy, Royall, Hill, Pollock, Quigly, Wilson, Caskie, McGhee, Dunham, Palmer, McClain, Rhea, and Stratton—80.

Nays.—Stewart, Wood, North, Woodruff, Day, Butts, Redfield, McVicear, Elder, Selover, Harman, Furman, Miles, Gray, Russell, S. Warner, W. Brown, Davidson, Cook, Riggs, Lyon, Parmelee, Blodget, Goodell, Duffield, Wing, Child, Wead, S. North, Marvin, Colt, Howe, G. W. Warner, Isham, Rankin, J. H. Johnston, Woods, Farnam, Gale, Ransom, Carpenter, C. W. Gilbert, and T. Brown—43.

Non Liquet.—Bassett, Elliot, and Whitaker—3.

So the motion to strike out was carried.

Mr. Caskie then moved to amend further by striking out the words—"and adapted to remove the evil," and substitute the words—"on the subject."

While this motion was under discussion, the Assembly adjourned, till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer. [21]

Friday Morning, May 24, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Dr. Hill, from the Committee on the State of the Church, reported in part. The report was accepted and laid, for the present, on the table.

Mr. Wisner, from the Committee to prepare a Declaration on the present condition of the Presbyterian Church, made a report which was accepted and re-committed to the same Committee.

Judge Darling, from the Committee of Twelve, made a further report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

"*Whereas* the Committee of 12, appointed by the General Assembly of 1838, at their session at the First Presbyterian church in the city of Philadelphia, did through their legal counsel, in November last, previous to the trial before Judge Rogers at *nisi prius*, propose certain most liberal, just and equitable terms, for the pacification of the church, by which terms this body is willing to abide; and *whereas* there has been falsely imputed to us a spirit of litigation which we always deplore; therefore,

Resolved, That the following plan of peaceable division, referred to above, be published, that all may know our strong desire for peace, and to whom the blame of litigation past and prospective properly belongs.

PLAN OF DIVISION.

"In order to secure an amicable and equitable adjustment of difficulties existing in the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, it is hereby agreed by the respective parties, that the following shall be ARTICLES on which the DIVISION shall be made and continued.

Art. I. The successors of the body which held its sessions in Ranstead Court, shall hereafter be known by the name and style of the "General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America." The successors of the body which held its sessions in the First Presbyterian church, shall hereafter be known by the name and style of the "General Assembly of the American Presbyterian Church."

Art. II. Joint application shall be made, by the parties in this agreement, to the Legislature of Pennsylvania, for a charter to incorporate the Trustees of each of the respective bodies, securing to each the immunities and privileges now secured by the existing charter to the Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America; subject nevertheless to the limitations and articles herein agreed on; and when so obtained, the existing charter shall be surrendered to the State.

Art. III. Churches, Ministers, and Members of churches, as well as Presbyteries, shall be at full liberty to decide to which of the said Assemblies they will be attached; and in case the majority of legal voters of any congregation shall prefer to be connected with any Presbytery connected with the Assembly to which their Presbytery is not attached, they shall certify the same to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery which they wish to leave; and their connexion with said Presbytery shall thenceforth cease.

Art. IV. The Theological Seminary of Princeton, the Western Theological Seminary, the Board of Foreign Missions, the Board of Domestic Missions, the Board of Education, with the funds appertaining to each, [22] shall be the property, and subject to the exclusive control of the body which, according to this agreement, shall be chartered under the title of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

This agreement shall not be considered as a secession on the part of either body from the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, but as a voluntary and amicable division of this church into two denominations, each retaining all the ecclesiastical and pecuniary rights of the whole body, with the limitations and qualifications in the above articles specified."

NOTE.—The only reply which the committee received to these articles of agreement was, that they could not be accepted; that the Old School party would agree that the members of the Constitutional General Assembly and those who adhered to it, might leave the Presbyterian Church without molestation from them; and that they should not be called "Seceders."

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz. the report on the subject of Slavery, was resumed.

Mr. Caskie, on leave, withdrew his amendment.

Mr. Rankin moved to amend so as to read—"great moral evil from the churches."

Mr. Graves then moved to postpone this amendment and the whole report, with a view to introduce a substitute. The motion to postpone was carried,

and the substitute of Mr. Graves was taken up; and after some discussion, the Assembly adjourned till half-past three o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, P. M., half-past three o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz. the resolution proposed by Mr. Graves on the subject of Slavery, was resumed.

Mr. George Beecher offered an amendment, which was passed, and then the whole Resolution was adopted as follows:

"*Whereas* certain memorials have been sent up to this Assembly from several Presbyteries, desiring some action on the subject of Slavery; and *whereas* these memorials have been read and freely discussed by this body; and *whereas* this Assembly is made up of members from different portions of our extended country, who honestly differ in opinion, as well in regard to the propriety as the nature of the ecclesiastical action desired in the case, therefore, *Resolved*, That this Assembly does most solemnly refer to the lower judicatories the subject of Slavery; leaving it to them to take such order thereon as in their judgment will be most judicious and adapted to remove the evil."

The Assembly then proceeded to the unfinished business of yesterday, viz. Mr. Tappan's appeal. Mr. Tappan continued and finished his plea.

Messrs. Leavitt, P. F. Smith and Judge Brown were appointed a Committee to audit the pecuniary accounts of the Stated Clerk and of Mr. Ambrose White.

The Declaration on the condition of the Presbyterian Church, which had been reported and re-committed, was again reported and accepted, and for the present laid on the table. Adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer. [23]

Saturday Morning, May 25, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Messrs. Boardman, Hazen, C. W. Gilbert, Woods, J. C. Beach, Day, Harman E. Beach, J. L. Mason, and J. C. Smith, had leave of absence from the remaining sessions of this Assembly.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz. the appeal of Mr. Tappan, was resumed. The Presbytery was heard in its defence. During their defence, the question arose, Shall the respondents have leave, the parties consenting, to introduce evidence to show that the appellant has not submitted to the decision of the Presbytery? Leave was refused.

The Presbytery having finished their defence, Mr. Tappan replied, and the Presbytery made some explanations. The parties having been fully heard, were considered as withdrawn.

The Assembly then adjourned till half-past three o'clock this P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, P. M., half-past three o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer. The Minutes were read and approved.

Messrs. Hopkins, Leavitt, Wisner, B. Campbell, Wead, Carpenter, Riggs, Royall, and Selover, had leave of absence from the remaining sessions of this Assembly.

The consideration of the appeal of Mr. Tappan was resumed; and the Roll was called to give every member an opportunity to express his opinion on the case.

After considerable progress had been made, in a free expression of opinion on the appeal of Mr. Tappan, the Assembly adjourned to meet on Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday Morning, May 27, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Judge Darling, from the Committee of Twelve, made the following additional report which was accepted and adopted.

"The Committee of Twelve, in the discharge of the duties devolved upon them by the resolutions of the General Assembly of 1838, necessarily incurred expenses of considerable amount in the payment of witnesses whose testimony was believed to be important on the trial of the *Quo Warranto* before Judge Rogers, and in compensating counsel for their professional advice. The Committee have expended all that was received through the liberality of individuals in New York and Philadelphia; and the further sum of $3,000 is required to defray these expenses, and others which probably will soon be incurred. The Committee therefore recommend that this amount be assessed on the Presbyteries under the care of the General Assembly, in just and equitable proportions; and that the Presbyteries be requested to raise and pay over the amount of their respective assessments to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, on or before the first day of Nov. next." [24]

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be given to the Committee for the ability and fidelity with which they have discharged the duties assigned them; and that they be re-appointed for the ensuing year.

The following report was then made by Dr. Hill, from the Committee on the State of the Church, which after being amended was adopted, and is as follows:

"The Presbytery of Erie, and all who adhere to this General Assembly, within the bounds of the Synod of Pittsburgh and of the Synod of Philadelphia, shall be, and are hereby attached to the Synod of Pennsylvania.

All who adhere to this General Assembly in the territory south of the State of Missouri, and west of the Mississippi River, shall be, and are hereby attached to the Synod of Missouri.

The Presbyteries of Shiloh and Clinton, and all who adhere to this General Assembly in the States of Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama, are hereby attached to the Synod of Tennessee.

All who adhere to this General Assembly in the States of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, are hereby attached to the Synod of Virginia; and the Synod of Virginia is directed to meet in the first church of Washington, D. C., on the last Wednesday of September next, and be opened with a sermon by the Rev. William Hill, D. D., or, in case of his absence, by the oldest minister present, who shall preside till a new Moderator be chosen.

Resolved, That it be recommended to majorities of church sessions and Presbyteries, to take no other action in relation to members who have left them to join other ecclesiastical bodies not in connexion with us, than to strike their names from the roll.

Resolved, That it be recommended to ministers, where majorities have left, to continue their ecclesiastical organization as before, if in sufficient num-

bers; and if not, to connect themselves with the ecclesiastical bodies most convenient to their locality and circumstances, which adhere to this General Assembly.

Resolved, That we recommend to all our churches the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions, the Am. Home Missionary Society, and the Am. Education Society, as the most suitable channels, under present circumstances, through which they can dispense their charities in aiding the propagation of the gospel among the heathen, and in our own country, and for training up young men for the gospel ministry; without however wishing to restrict the liberty of individuals to use their own discretion in this matter."

Judge Brown, from the Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Stated Clerk and of Ambrose White, Esq., reported that the accounts were correct; and that there was a balance due to the Stated Clerk of $71 37 cents, and to Mr. White a balance due of $102 28 cents. The report was accepted.

The unfinished business of Saturday, viz. Mr. Tappan's appeal, was resumed. The calling of the Roll was continued; and after some progress, the Assembly adjourned till half-past three o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, P. M., half-past 3 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Mr. Smith, from the Committee appointed to make an assessment on the Presbyteries of the amount to be raised for the Contingent Fund, [25] reported that the brief period of the session would not enable them to complete their report. They were therefore continued, with authority to act at discretion: and Dr. Mason was added to the Committee.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz.: Mr. Tappan's appeal, was resumed. The calling of the Roll was continued; and after some progress, the Assembly adjourned to 8 o'clock this evening.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday Evening, 8 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The calling of the Roll in the case of Mr. Tappan was completed.

On motion of Dr. Cox, the following was adopted as the decision of the Assembly in this case.

"*Resolved*, That, in view of the whole case, the Assembly, while they sustain the appeal, and cannot pass without censure some of the acts of the courts below, are constrained to rule as follows: viz.

1. That the act of the Session excluding the Stenographer, even if it were within the ultimate prerogatives of the Court, was of very questionable wisdom, as well as of dangerous precedent, in reference to the rights of respondents at their bar.

2. That there seems to have been, in the proceedings of the Session, too much precipitation and absoluteness, and too little of that calm and practical vindication of their own dignity, which mildness and forbearance, in the spirit of our Master, are largely necessary to inspire; and this especially in reference to the sentence they pronounced.

3. That the appellant seems in several respects to have manifested a resolute opposition to the Court of the first resort, which certainly, as a whole, amounts to contumacy; though we are not disposed to graduate it as flagrant or unmingled, or in circumstances of no severe probation.

4. The Assembly therefore decide in the premises, that the sentence of the Session, suspending the appellant be, and it hereby is reversed, as also the decision of the Presbytery confirming that of the Session.

5. That the appellant be advised to review his conduct, in the spirit of solemn and faithful self-examination; and henceforth to order his way with more meekness and reverence of the authority of the great Head of the church, as the Supreme President of all our judicatories.

6. That all the parties, the Session and the appellant in the first instance, and after that, if necessary, the Presbytery with them, be required solemnly and prayerfully to confer together in the whole case, with the sincere purpose of preventing further proceedings and pacificating all concerned, according to the order and honor of the kingdom of Christ; and that they resume not their formal proceedings of trial before the Session, unless or until it is demonstrated that no other measures can preventively avail; and the Assembly do solemnly and affectionately exhort all persons at all connected with the case, and especially the parties themselves, to seek the things that make for peace and the things whereby one may edify another."

Messrs. Rood, Strong and Noble were appointed a Committee to receive any contributions for the Commissioners' Fund.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday Morning, May 28, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. [26]

The Minutes of the two preceding sessions were read and approved.

The Rev. Moses C. Searle, of the Presbytery of Oneida, announced to the Assembly, the death of his co-Commissioner and co-Presbyter, the Rev. Alfred Hough, Pastor of the church at Vernon Centre, N. Y. He died at dawn of day this morning, after a short illness, in full possession of his faculties, and expressing the calm and happy confidence of the Christian in the grace of God our Savior.

Thus, in the prime of life, and while absent from his family and flock, has our brother been removed to the world of spirits, and as we comfortably trust, to the rewards of the faithful in the paradise of God. His sudden and early exit is our admonition as well as loss! We are happy to bear testimony to his fidelity as a Commissioner to this Assembly, both in conduct and spirit. With his widow and fatherless children, his parents and his flock, the Assembly tenderly sympathize. May the Great Shepherd of Israel be their preserver and portion, and make this afflicting Providence to them and to us a spiritual benediction; that we be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be directed to forward a copy of the above Minute, with a letter of condolence to his afflicted family.

Mr. Duffield, from the Committee to prepare a Pastoral Letter, reported a draught of such a letter, which was accepted and adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix.

On motion of Judge Darling, the following gentlemen were added to the Committee of Twelve: David Leavitt, R. T. Haines, F. A. Raybold, Elijah Dechert, Abijah Fisher, Edward Corning, William Jessup, and P. F. Smith. John R. Neff was appointed in the place of Thomas Fleming resigned.

Mr. A. D. Smith, from the Committee to prepare a Narrative, made a report which was accepted and adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix.

In reference to the time of observing the Monthly Concert, on motion of Dr. Cox, the Assembly agreed to recommend, that it be continued per-

manently on the first Monday evening of every month, without change; since it is now to be considered as a concert of Protestant Christendom throughout the world, urging the petition Thy kingdom come, in the same spirit and, as nearly as may be, according to the different meridians of their habitation, at the same time.

The Assembly also recommend to the confidence, the pâtronage and the prayers of all our churches, especially those Theological Seminaries, for the sound and competent training of our ministerial candidates, which are in more immediate connexion with us, and under the auspices of Synods or Presbyteries, or other organizations of our beloved Zion. They would especially mention the Auburn Seminary, the Lane Seminary at Cincinnati; the Theological Seminary connected with the Western Reserve College; the South-western Theological Seminary at Maryville, East Tennessee, and the New-York Theological Seminary lately and prosperously established in the city of New York. May these Schools of the Prophets perpetually flourish by the benediction of God, as nurseries of His own ministers, and pledges of His mercy to our country and the world.

The report of the Committee on the State of the Church, which had been laid on the table, was taken up and, after amendment, was adopted, and is as follows: [27]

"The Committee on the State of the Church, having had before them sundry petitions and memorials requesting a modification of our present ecclesiastical organization, recommend that the following Overtures be sent down to the Presbyteries for their action:

1. Shall the Constitution be so amended as to limit the power of the General Assembly, and make the Synods in all cases the Courts of ultimate appeal and final authoritative jurisdiction; and the General Assembly an advisory council for all the churches?

2. Shall the Constitution be so amended as to require the General Assembly to hold its sessions triennially, as a bond of union between the churches, retaining its present functions, with the exceptions specified in the first overture?

3. Shall the last Moderator and the Stated and Permanent Clerks be empowered to call a *pro re nata* meeting of the General Assembly, in case of any emergency, which in their opinion solemnly demands such meeting: Providing that four full months shall intervene between the call and the time of holding such meeting?

The Committee further recommend that, should the Presbyteries agree to the amendments above proposed, the next General Assembly make the arrangement of Synods and fix the ratio of representation best adapted to the organization of the church as thus modified. The plan which best commends itself to the minds of the Committee is substantially that proposed, in the year 1832, by the Rev. Dr. Alexander, and published in the Princeton *Biblical Repertory*, vol. iv. of the New Series, pp. 28–47."

Adjourned till half-past three o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, P. M., half-past three o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Declaration of the condition of the Presbyterian Church, which had been laid on the table, was taken up, and after amendment was adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix.

Ordered, That the Stated Clerk be authorised to have the Minutes published in the usual form, and in such number as he shall deem proper.

Ordered, that the charge of the Hon. Moulton C. Rogers in the Court of *Nisi Prius*, be published in the Appendix.

Mr. Pratt offered the following resolution which was adopted:

Whereas there has been a deficiency in the Commissioners' Fund to bear the travelling expenses of Commissioners for a number of years: *Whereas* also a large portion of the church is not represented from this cause; or if represented, it has been at the great sacrifice of a few individuals; therefore, *Resolved*, that all the Presbyteries be instructed to adopt some more effectual measures for the increase of the Commissioners' Fund.

Resolved, that the thanks of this General Assembly be returned to the citizens of Philadelphia, for their kindness and hospitality to the members of this body during the present session.

Resolved, also, that the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the Trustees of the First Presbyterian church, for the use of their house during the sessions of this body.

Resolved, that the Stated Clerk of each Presbytery be directed to collect and send to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly a sum equal in amount [28] to 25 cents from each member of the Presbytery for the Minutes of the Assembly.

The Janitor's Bill, and several Bills for printing were presented, allowed, and ordered to be paid.

The business of the Assembly being finished, the Assembly was formally dissolved, and another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, was required to meet at the same place on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1840, at 11 o'clock A. M. Concluded with prayer, singing, and the apostolic benediction.

APPENDIX.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION

Within the Bounds of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, during the Year last past.

In the view which the Presbyterial narratives present of the state of religion within our bounds, lights and shades are as usual blended. The church is still in the wilderness—still militant—and trials of various kinds are of course to be looked for. We might well think it strange, as though some strange thing had happened to us, if none such were recounted in the history of the past year. Of the evils which are commonly brought to the notice of the General Assembly, mention is made by most of the Presbyteries. The alarming desecration of the Sabbath, for example, especially as connected with the modern facilities of travel, is deplored in fitting terms. And yet the watchful attention to the evil, and the vivid and painful sense of it which many of the narrators evince, are of happy omen. From a few of the Presbyteries we learn that lukewarmness has been sadly prevalent in most of their churches; and from various quarters acknowledgments are made, such as we need not specify, of deficiency in particular departments of Christian duty. While we merely glance at these aspects of our religious state—pertaining as they do, more or less, to every period of our history, and calling always for self-abasement—we would notice more particularly some of the peculiar evils and discouragements of the past year.

The extraordinary prevalence of disease has been a sore trial to some of our Western Presbyteries. It has not affected merely the temporal interests

of the churches. They have lost many valuable members. And so numerous, in some cases, have been the sick, and to such an extent have the time and energies of those in health been devoted to them, that the public religious services and benevolent operations have been, for a season, suspended. It may be hoped, however, that these afflictions, though for the time grievous, and fitted to awaken the deepest sympathy, will be found to have yielded afterward "the peaceable fruit of righteousness."

In some of the frontier congregations, the border troubles have proved a serious hindrance to the cause of Christ. The undue and misdirected excitement of the popular mind, the wars in miniature and rumors of wars, to which some of the Presbyterial reports allude, have all tended to divert men's thoughts from the concerns of eternity, and unfit them to profit by the means of grace. We cannot but be deeply impressed, in view of these things, with the unfriendliness of war to the progress of religion, and the propriety and importance of praying for universal and perpetual peace.

Another evil spoken of in some of the Presbyterial narrations, is the spirit of pecuniary speculation, so rife in the community a short time since. Many even of the professed people of God, making "haste to be rich," have not been "innocent," but have "pierced themselves with many sorrows." Even those who refrained, themselves, from adventuring rashly, have in many cases been unhappily entangled with others less cautious. A vast amount of distracting and secularizing solicitude about worldly matters, has been awakened in the bosom of the Church. And though the rage for gain has in some measure subsided, and the community are coming to think of it more soberly, not a few of its sad consequences yet remain. Many good men are still in circumstances of such embarrassments—the result of the late commercial distress—that their usefulness is in some degree impaired. Habits have doubtless also been formed, of unhappy character and tendency, which will hardly pass away with the occasion that gave them birth. Out of all this evil, however, the Great Head of the Church, it is believed, is educing much good. Seldom have his people been taught so impressively the vanity and instability of earthly possessions, and the importance of keeping themselves "unspotted from the world."

Another, and perhaps the most painful class of facts before us, is connected with the exscinding acts of 1837. Schismatical proceedings, in the spirit of those acts, have taken place in various quarters. Synods have been rent asunder, Presbyteries, and even churches, have suffered in like manner; and all this under circumstances, and in the assertion of claims, pre-eminently grievous to many concerned. It is the duty and the privilege of the Christian, to exhibit at all times the spirit of meekness and forbearance. When those, however, who love the Presbyterian Church, and have never forfeited their good standing in it, are treated by many of their brethren as outcasts from its communion, they are obviously subjected to a sore trial, and great injury is done to the cause of Christ. The world say no longer, "see how these Christians love one another;" but are rather emboldened in sin. The careless are confirmed in their carelessness, and the sceptic in his infidelity. Meanwhile the energies of the Church—of its leading minds especially—are so engrossed with controversial matters, as to be withdrawn, in a measure, from the spiritualities of religion. Vital piety will, of course, be likely to languish. To such results the divisive measures, begun in 1837, and carried out in succeeding years, have naturally and strongly tended. Painful evidence of this, the reports from some of the Presbyteries have afforded. On the whole, however, we have reason for gratitude to God, that his interposing grace has so limited the evil. In some quarters, where secession has

taken place, it has been effected quietly, and without contention. And it is worthy of special notice, that in one of our churches, at least, from which a small minority have gone out, setting up most unfounded claims to the church property, the spirit of the Lord was graciously poured out, almost simultaneously with their secession. And the state of the Church in general during the past year, has afforded not a little evidence, that the wall may be built even "in troublous times." In confirmation of this remark, we may now advert to various facts of a more cheering character than most of those already stated.

As to the various forms of benevolent effort, we have much gratifying intelligence. In the circulation of the Bible and religious Tracts, in the education of candidates for the Gospel ministry, in the sending forth of Missionaries to the destitute portions of our own country, and to foreign lands, a deep interest has been manifested. In many of the churches, contributions to these objects have been comparatively liberal. In some instances, the charities of the past year have far exceeded those of the year preceding. It is believed that our churches are becoming more and more disposed to place their department of Christian duty under the dominion of principle, rather than of mere feeling.—The cause of temperance, though in some places thought to be declining, has on the whole advanced greatly during the past year. In one instance, at least, efforts in its behalf seemed to prepare the way for a revival of religion. And it should be noted, as indicative of the progress of public sentiment, and as full of encouragement every way, that several of the State legislatures have enacted laws respecting the traffick in ardent spirits, exceedingly favorable to the temperance reform. The system of Tract Distribution, we would add, though less extensively adopted than could be desired, has in some of our congregations been productive of great good, in respect both to the conversion of souls and the edification of the Church.

A deep, and it is thought an increasing interest has been manifested, in the spiritual welfare of the young. Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes not only exist but flourish in most of our churches. In some instances the dews of heavenly grace have descended upon them. In a single congregation in the Presbytery of Rochester, forty or fifty children have been hopefully converted. While Sabbath Schools have been thus blest, and their many happy influences more fully developed, there is, it is believed, in many of our congregations, a deepening sense of the importance of family religion. The sentiment is becoming more and more prevalent and practical, that for parental instruction, the Sabbath School, however efficient, should never be a substitute. Increased attention is paid to the duty of household consecration. And the Assembly are happy to learn, that both in families and Sabbath Schools, that excellent compend of religious doctrine, the Westminster Assembly's Shorter Catechism, is coming into more general use.

From several of the Theological Seminaries within our bounds, no particular returns have been received. From that at Auburn we learn, however, that its prospects are brightening. There is good reason to believe, that measures now in progress will both increase its means of usefulness, and give it a deeper interest in the affections and prayers of the churches, especially those in Western New York. The New York Theological Seminary has enjoyed almost unexampled prosperity. Though yet in its infancy, it falls but little below the oldest Theological institutions in the country, as to the number of students. It will prove, the Assembly doubt not, a great blessing, not only to the city in which it is established, but to the land and the world.

Among the encouraging signs of the times disclosed by the Presbyterial reports, the General Assembly take pleasure in noticing the increasing desire for a permanent ministry manifest in every quarter. The conviction is every where deepening, that the Pastoral relation should be seldom dissolved, and only for clear and urgent reasons. It is ominous of good, also, that increasing attention is paid to the instruction of our congregations in the great doctrines of religion. And to this it may be added, that by some of the Presbyteries a peculiarly deep interest has been taken in the destitute churches within our bounds. All these facts are not only indicative of right feeling, but are full of promises in regard to the perpetuity of our religious institutions, and the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom.

The services of the sanctuary have, in general, been well attended; and in many instances been crowned with an abundant blessing. The number of revivals reported is smaller than in some preceding years, and yet so great as to call for the deepest gratitude. In many congregations where no extraordinary effusion of the Holy Spirit has been enjoyed, there has been a gradual work of grace, additions having been made to the churches at every sacramental season. Of those congregations which have been more signally blessed, the following may be numbered:—in the Presbytery of Champlain, the churches in Champlain, Moers, and Huntington, L. C.; in the Presbytery of Troy, the congregations in Salem, Schaghticoke, Whitehall, Lansingburgh, Hoosick Falls, and Troy 1st.; in the Presbytery of Albany, the congregations in Bethlehem, Schenectady, and Albany 4th; one congregation in the Presbytery of Columbia; in the Presbytery of Watertown, the churches in Antwerp, Theresa, and Watertown 1st and 2d; in the Presbytery of Oneida, the churches in Vernon, Augusta, Rome, New Hartford, Little Falls, New York Mills, and the 1st church and Bleecker Street church in Utica; in the Presbytery of Otsego, the churches in Gilbertsville, Cooperstown, and Worcester; fifteen congregations in the Presbytery of Geneva, most of the churches in the Presbytery of Onondaga; in the Presbytery of Cayuga, the congregations in Ithaca, East Cayuga, and Auburn 1st; in the Presbytery of Bath, the churches in Howard, Bath, and Kennedyville; in the Presbytery of Delaware, the congregations in Jefferson and the Head of Delaware; in the Presbytery of Chauncey, the congregations in Elmira, Southport, Horsehead, and Wells 2d; in the Presbytery of Genessee, the churches in Attica, Castile, Gainsville, Penebroke, Leroy and Batavia; in the Presbytery of Ontario, the congregations in Mount Morris, York and Union Corners; in the Presbytery of Rochester, the congregations in Victor, Scottsville, and the city of Rochester; ten congregations in the Presbytery of Niagara; in the Presbytery of Angelica, the churches in Allen, Almond, Cuba, Phillipsville, New Hudson and Friendship; in the Presbytery of Hudson, the churches in Middletown, Ridgeberry, Bethlehem, Florida, Coshocton; about half of the congregations in the North River Presbytery; several congregations in the Third Presbytery of New York; in the Presbytery of Newark, the churches in Rockaway, Wantage, Newark 2d and 3d, and the Free church in Newark; in the Presbytery of Montrose, the congregations of Great Bend, Harford, Herrick, and Honesdale; several congregations in the Third Presbytery of Philadelphia; in the Presbytery of Huron, several congregations; in the Presbytery of Maumee, the churches in Manhattan and Maumee City; several churches in the Presbytery of Medina; in the Presbytery of Detroit, the congregations in Detroit, Bloomfield, Wing Lake, Utica, Mount Clemens, St. Clair, Rochester, Farmington and Northville; in the Presbytery of Monroe, the congregations in Adrian, Clinton and Monroe; in the Presbytery of St. Josephs, the churches in Bushy Prairie, White Pig-

eon, Ontario and Lima; in the Presbytery of Washtenaw, the churches in Ann Arbor, Lodi, Ypsilanti, Sylan, Webster and Salem; in the Presbytery of Kalamazoo, the churches in Richland and Kalamazoo; several congregations in the Presbytery of Athens; in the Presbytery of Lancaster, several congregations; in the Presbytery of Marion, the churches in Trenton and Mount Gilead; several churches in the Presbytery of Cincinnati; in the Presbytery of Salem, the congregations in Franklin, Mount Vernon, Evansville, Brownstown, Salem and New Albany 2d; in the Presbytery of Madison, the congregations in Pisgah and Madison 2d; one congregation in the Presbytery of Crawfordsville; the congregation in Newton, in the Presbytery of Schuyler; in the Presbytery of Peoria, the churches in Union Grove and Peoria; in the Presbytery of Knox, the congregations in Salisbury, Knoxville and Farmington; and in the Presbytery of Clinton, the congregations in Grenada, Carrollton, Middleton, Shengole, Lexington and Canton.

Among the revivals reported, are some of an interesting kind in literary institutions. Of those most favored the following colleges may be mentioned:—Hamilton, Union, Marietta, and Illinois.

In the review of the past year, while we see much occasion for humility, we have reason, on many accounts, both for thankfulness and encouragement. We have, indeed, been afflicted as a Church; and it behooves us to inquire why the Lord has thus contended with us. But we have received great mercies too. He has led us in a way which we knew not. He has granted us heavenly influences in the midst of our sorest trials. And all his dealings with us have been fitted to dispel our fears, and lead us to gird ourselves for coming labors, in meek dependence on his grace, and with entire self-devotement to his service and glory. Let duty be ours, and we need not tremble for the ark of the Lord. Zion is dearer to him than to us; she is graven, he has assured us, on the palms of his hands, and is precious to him as the apple of his eye.

BAXTER DICKINSON, *Moderator.*
ERSKINE MASON, *Stated Clerk.*

A PASTORAL LETTER

ADDRESSED TO THE CHURCHES BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES, CONVENED IN PHILADELPHIA MAY, 1839.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,

We feel ourselves deeply embarrassed in addressing you. However delightful it has been, under other circumstances, "to stir up your minds by way of remembrance," or in seasons of adversity to comfort, stablish and settle you, we freely confess, that the attitude in which we find ourselves placed before the churches and the world, affects us with grief. With the history of our troubles you have already been made acquainted. With our peculiar position at present, especially in its moral bearing, we deem it important to apprise you; not so much for our own vindication, as to have access to your hearts, that through your confidence and prayers we may be able to do you good.

In the late unhappy conflicts, which have agitated our ecclesiastical judicatories, we have been found differing, in many respects, from our brethren who once acted with us, and "with whom we took sweet counsel, and walked to the house of God in company." That difference was not, as has sometimes been alleged, the mere struggle for power between rival or opposing parties.

With us, it has been a contest for principle. We mean not, in so saying, to intimate that it may not have been so with our brethren. Whose principles will be found most according with the mind of God and the Spirit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the developments of providence, and the decisions of the great day must determine. What they are which actuate us, it is proper, with all Christian confidence, "to declare unto you," that you may better understand our character and motives, and appreciate our efforts.

The leading point of difference between us and our brethren, may be classed under three heads, viz. doctrine, discipline, and measures. As to doctrine, we have been accused and denounced as heretics, subverting "the faith once delivered to the saints." As to discipline, as innovators, undervaluing and opposing the order and government of the Presbyterian Church, so wisely and scripturally adjusted by our fathers. And, as to measures, as aliens and foreigners, entering into the Church under false pretences, and seeking, by intrigue and conspiracy, to betray its interests and revolutionize its councils. Had our brethren conferred freely and fraternally with us, before they circulated their suspicions and vague intangible accusations, we are persuaded they would not have so deeply injured, as we fear they have done, both their own and our influence, or so seriously shaken public confidence in ministerial character, and public respect for the ministerial office.

In doctrine, we hold, in common with them, the great essential truths of the gospel, not deviating in matters of faith, from the system of our Confession, though some of us differing in the mode of illustrating and enforcing them.

In discipline, we have differed from our brethren, in so far as with our Book of Discipline, we have denied, and do still most solemnly deny, that to our church courts pertains any authority whatever to make laws which shall be directly or indirectly binding on the conscience—that by any legislative enactments can synods, presbyteries, churches, ministers or members, in connexion with our body, be exscinded, and that either by any mere legislative declaration, or in any other way, can any thing be lawfully and constitutionally done, affecting ministerial or Christian character or reputation, where there has not been a regular and formal judicial process conducted on principles of fair and impartial justice, and agreeably to the essential forms and provisions prescribed in our Book of Discipline. Their authority is only ministerial and declarative, and must, in all cases, of its legitimate exercise, affecting the rights, reputation, and consciences of members, be based on the Scriptures, or the law of God. Where the provision of our constitution, or the rules and regulations adopted by church courts, for their social government or order, and their decisions and modes of executing the same, run counter to the precepts of the gospel, the law of Christ's house, then do they *de facto*, become null and void, since the Form of Government of the Presbyterian Church distinctly proclaims the fact, that in order to church courts possessing any authoritative power whatever, "*all* their *decisions* should be founded upon the revealed will of God."

In admitting members to the communion of the church, or sealing ordinances, we have deemed something more essential as a test of character or qualifications, than a mere profession of orthodox belief, sustained by general external morality. We have required a credible profession of saving faith in Jesus Christ; and, in order to judge about the credibility of such a profession, we have deemed it necessary, in all cases, personally to examine the applicants for church communion, as to their experimental knowledge of practical piety, or, in other words, as to what intelligent account they would

give of a work of grace in their hearts, or what evidence they personally possessed of a saving change of heart, or a regenerate state.

We hold that it is by the gift of faith and the grace of regeneration, always evidencing themselves in genuine repentance, and a life of holiness, that our Lord Jesus Christ constitutes any one a member of his mystical body—the Church which he has purchased with his own most precious blood. And where satisfactory evidence of the fact, that a person has been united to Christ by faith, has been given, there we have felt ourselves under obligation to receive his members to our fellowship. Nor have we required an assent to all the doctrines in detail contained in our Confession of Faith, or to the Confession itself from church members admitted into our fellowship, though we have required ministers, and elders, and deacons, on their ordination, to adopt the system of doctrine contained in it, as agreeable to the Holy Scriptures. The design of church fellowship we have felt to be the benefit of Christ's members, towards all of whom we feel under obligations of love, to extend the aid of our counsel, our sympathy, our prayers, and whatever other duty we owe to those whom He has called to be the heirs of his kingdom, as they have revealed themselves to us, and asked from us the privileges of Christ's house. To instruct, admonish, reprove, rebuke, exhort, and entreat, are offices of love, which we owe to the members of his body, in so far as they may need and ask it of us, who seek our fellowship, and, in the providence of God, become known to us. With the zeal and diligence of the great body of our churches on this subject, and especially those among whom it has been slanderously reported such great irregularity, and disorder, and error obtained, we have been much gratified.

The abbreviated creeds in use in many of our churches, in receiving members, and which have been sent up and received by us, afford satisfactory evidence of the intelligence and care of the churches in relation to the piety of their members, of their soundness in the faith, and the zeal and unanimity with which they seem to be "striving together for the faith of the gospel." The committee who have had this subject in special charge, say that these creeds, and the covenants appended to them, evince a diligent care to have their members well indoctrinated and deeply imbued with the influence of vital piety. They all contain a distinct and full recognition of the existence of God in a Trinity of persons—the supreme divinity of Jesus Christ—the universal providence and purposes of God—the total moral corruption of every heart by nature in consequence of the apostacy of Adam—a full and ample atonement by Jesus Christ—personal election—regeneration by the grace and Spirit of God—justification by faith, through the righteousness of Christ—the certain perseverance of the saints—the unchangeable obligations of the law—the resurrection of the dead, both just and unjust—the final judgment, with the endless punishment of the wicked—the ordinance of infant baptism—the duties of reading the word, and maintaining prayer by the head of every family—and the religious observance of the Sabbath.

In respect of measures we have not attached that importance to some things which our brethren have regarded with so much zeal. We have preferred another course, and that has subjected us to their suspicions and censures. We have deemed it of more consequence to preserve our beloved Church on the foundation of Christ and the apostles, where she was placed by our fathers, than on any basis of human legislation. The cultivation and exhibition in a living, practical example to the world of that catholic spirit which would recommend and rejoice in all benevolent and evangelical measures adapted to promote the welfare of man and the glory of God, whether originating in and prosecuted under, the distinctive banner of our

own particular denomination or not, we prized more than any acts and testimony, or exscinding resolutions, tending to excite suspicions and odium, and sunder brethren who ought to be cordially united in advancing the kingdom of Jesus Christ. We preferred the co-operations of Christians of different evangelical sects in their various societies for benevolent purposes, to the distinctive ecclesiastical organizations which have placed the different Protestant sects in the attitude of rivalry with each other, and which have led often to the impeachment of each other's motives, the traduction of each other's character, and the prostration of each other's labours, as well as to the great detriment and reproach of their common Christianity. We believe that by such means, the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ is more truly and appropriately prosecuting the cause of missions and other great benevolent objects than by ranging herself in her ecclesiastical boards, organized on the avowed principles of denominational peculiarities, looking to the rival interests of a part, instead of the great consolidating interests of the whole Church—more intent on spreading the Shibboleths of sect, than on saving the souls of men.

We have disapproved of our church courts being engaged in other monied concerns than were merely incidental to their meetings, fearing lest the constant attention given to pecuniary interests, the heavy endowment of Theological Seminaries under the control of ecclesiastical courts—the large disbursements for missionary operations, both foreign and domestic, and for the education of indigent youth for the ministry, and the numerous and expensive agencies, abstracting ministers from the pastoral office, and sending them abroad through the churches as the secular ministry, workers for the support of the ecclesiastical organizations, the complicated and cumbrous machinery of Boards of Directors to be annually elected, and all the vast system of pecuniary patronage connected with their operations, together with the facilities for espionage and drilling they furnish, should ambitious men ever seek to gain such power for the execution of their own or party plans, —might injure the spirituality of the ministry, impair the freedom of opinion in our church courts, and subject their members and the churches generally to embarrassments and obstacles in the way of justice, through their appellate jurisdiction, as at present constituted, beside other evils which we feared. We have thought, that whatever might be the evils incident to the power of pecuniary patronage through the system of agencies, and missionary, and other benevolent operations of the present day, it is safest and most accordant with the mind and will of Christ, and apostolic usage, best adapted to preserve the purity of our church courts and the spirituality of its members, not to cumber them with the cares and responsibilities incident to monied trusts and operations, but leave them, as in the primitive Church, to persons to be chosen from among the people, to receive and distribute their voluntary contributions.

We have also preferred that our highest judicatory should rather be a bond of union, and use its appropriate moral influence for the encouragement and help of the inferior judicatories, the fountains of original jurisdiction, than consolidated authority itself, and be occupied with the business of government.

Such have been our views and feelings on these subjects, although our preferences have never led us to attempt to condemn our brethren, or resort to any harsh measures to censure or control them in the indulgence and prosecution of their plans. It seems however, that we have not secured their confidence. A series of measures has been resorted to, and persisted in by them, which in our last letter to you were detailed, and which have issued in a virtual and formal division of the Presbyterian Church.

Although opposed to every thing like schism, condemning every measure of schismatic character and design, and disposed for the unity of the Church, to endure much inconvenience, yet, in the providence of God, we have found ourselves in circumstances which expose us to the charge of being separatists, seceders and schismatics. The exscinding resolutions of 1837, were regarded by us as schismatic—uncalled for in providence, unconstitutional in their nature, unauthorised by necessity, unrighteous in their operation, usurpations uncongenial with the spirit of Presbyterian institutions and American liberty, and unjustifiable on any principle but that of the most arrant despotism. We therefore felt ourselves constrained to adopt every proper and lawful method to resist their execution, on which we saw that an accidental majority were intent in despite of all remonstrance, and with the avowed purpose to confirm and perpetuate their power. How to do so, with most courtesy and brotherly feeling, without sanctioning schism by our own attempts to oppose the schismatic measures of others, and to preserve, if possible, the unity and integrity of the Presbyterian Church, was a question to us of deep and solemn moment.

We saw that the most mischievous results and distracting to many of our churches, would follow from the exscinding measures, if they should be accounted legal and valid. To have submitted at once to them, or to have seceded from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, would have sanctioned schism, and abandoned many of our congregations to the evils growing out of civil litigation. If possible to prevent such evils and stay our brethren from the perpetuation of their violent schismatic designs, we proposed terms of accommodation and peace, consenting to give up to them the Seminary at Princeton, and others, which they claim, with their funds, as well as all the property, style and title of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, and mutually to dissolve ourselves into two co-ordinate divisions, who should conjointly surrender the charter to the Legislature, and apply for other and new enactments adapted to the case. All we wanted or asked for, was to ward off from our congregations the distracting lawsuits which the measures of 1837 would originate, and to avoid the sin and sanction of schism. Our offer was rejected, and civil litigation with all its attendant mischief, must take place in all those congregations where acts of incorporation or deeds of trust, in which vests the legal title, call for or recognize their relation to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, as at present by law established, and among whom there may be found minorities disposed and ready to commence legal process for the ejection of their brethren and the possession of their property. It was not a question whether there should or should not be litigation. The measures of 1837 rendered it inevitable. The only question with us then, was how this could be done with most despatch, and guard the churches from distracting law suits. We therefore adopted a course adapted in the shortest time, with least excitement, and in the most amicable manner, to bring to an issue the controversies which had agitated our ecclesiastical courts, and put to the test the lawfulness or unlawfulness of the exscinding acts.

The organization of the General Assembly of 1838, was intended to include the whole Church, and was conducted in such manner as the best legal advisers directed, to preserve the unity and prevent the dismemberment of the Presbyterian Church, or the disfranchisement of its members. With the *quo warranto* process in the Supreme Court in the state of Pennsylvania, you have been acquainted.—The decision of Judge Rogers, and the verdict of the Jury in the Court at *Nisi prius*, are also known to you. The justice and equity of the same, have doubtless commended themselves to your sober

judgment. The subsequent decision of the Court in Bank granting a new trial, has stayed the execution of the sentence of the Court at *Nisi prius*. Their opinion expressed by the Chief Justice, which has ruled out the evidence, so as to make the case on a new trial, labour under great embarrassment, has been hailed by our brethren as a triumph and deliverance from God, and proof that they are right and we are wrong. The decision of three Judges out of five, staying the execution of the sentence of an unbiassed Judge, who has affirmed that the great eternal principles of justice have been violated by our brethren, and the verdict of a Jury of twelve disinterested men, has placed us and many of our congregations, in increased embarrassment and perplexity. That decision attributes and concedes to the majority in the Presbyterian Church, a despotic power, and a legislative character which the Constitution of our Church explicitly denies, and is utterly inconsistent with the usages of our fathers, the analogy of our civil government and the genius of American liberty.

In matters merely and exclusively of an ecclesiastical nature, which pertain to our organization and the legitimate action of the machinery of our government, we admit that the civil court has no jurisdiction, and we would be the last to ask it. But where the action of our church courts affects civil rights, and has been conducted in violation of the principles and essential forms of justice as well as of our Constitution,—where injury has been perpetrated without any opportunity or shadow of trial by the competent authorities:—where legislative power has been claimed and functions exercised in open defiance of our Constitution, on the plea of necessity, and with the design of using up a minority, who in fact, represented a majority of the whole Church, and of perpetuating the power thus usurped,—and where such action extensively affects titles to property, disturbs its equitable relations, affords the means and facilities of dispossessing its owners, and of alienating and confirming to a part what belongs to the whole, as well as seriously hurts the character and reputation of honest, upright, unoffending and peaceable citizens, there we are persuaded that the interposition of the civil court becomes necessary, in order to prevent and punish an ecclesiastical tyranny, at war alike with our free institutions, the authority of our laws, the constitution of our Church, and the spirit and precepts of Christianity. We feel ourselves called by the great Head of the Church, by the rights and reputation of its members, by the interests of society and the sacredness and value of American liberty, to resist, and if possible, prevent the successful exercise of such high and dangerous ecclesiastical power. This, however, we cannot do by violence or popular commotion—only by moral influence and the regular action of our highest constituted authorities and courts of appeal for redress.

With us, it is a painful contest for principle, for conscience, for liberty, and for the unity and integrity of the Presbyterian Church. We wish not to eject our brethren, nor to possess their property, nor to deprive them of any rights or possessions they may prize, nor to coerce them into our views of policy. All we wish is to ward off the blow of that power which they have assumed—prevent schismatic divisions—preserve the Presbyterian Church one and undivided, if possible, and concede to all their rights. We have maintained our present position, in which we find ourselves placed in providence, because we cannot sanction the claim to exercise legislative power, asserted and exercised by our brethren, or any thing which would concede to an irresponsible hierarchy, or approve of their exercise of, any power to disturb civil rights, and the relations of property. Here is the delicacy and difficulty of our position.

In maintaining it, we feel that we are bound not to consult the dictates of our own pride, ambition, or desire for power,—not the demands of our own wounded spirits—but the precepts and spirit of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who, though He was ever kind and forbearing and ready to forgive, nevertheless sacrificed Himself, rather than abandon the eternal principles of right and truth, or sanction and approve of the unrighteous exercise of arbitrary and despotic power.

It is to unfold to you, dear brethren, our own sense of obligation in these matters, and to exhort and encourage you in this perilous and perplexing hour, to seek and cherish the spirit of Christ that we address you. We feel deeply for such among you, as may be subjected to litigious processes, disturbing your peace, and seeking to alienate your church property. We have not yet ceased to make all appropriate efforts, if possible, to stay such things. Whether we shall be successful or not, a little time will show—but should you be subjected to the spoiling of your goods, and see the sanctuaries you have reared and loved pass into the hands of others, we earnestly beseech you not to indulge a vindictive spirit, or do any thing which might sully the purity of your Christian character. Rather "submit joyfully to the spoiling of your goods," than be yourselves aggressors. Great meekness and gentleness, forbearance and forgiveness, become you, in order to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour. Look to Him, and you will find in Him resources adequate to all your exigencies. Remain faithful, and persevere unto the end. Do not, we beseech you, allow the troubles which have befallen us, to drive you off into other ecclesiastical connexions, and abandon the Presbyterian Church to the misfortunes which have happened to her. We need your sympathies, and prayers, and co-operations. Opportunities have been afforded us to illustrate the graces of the spirit, and promote the glory of God. Let this be your study. Be particularly attentive to the interests of your personal piety. Cultivate the tender, prayerful spirit of Jesus Christ, and you will find that Zion shall be built up even in these troublous times. The kingdom of God cometh not by observation. It is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. Let nothing, therefore, alarm you, for nothing can hurt you if you be the followers of that which is good. We commend you to the great interests of Evangelical religion, and the operations of Christian benevolence. Let the cause of the Bible, of Missions, domestic and foreign, of Tracts, of Education, of suffering and oppressed humanity, of a wretched and ruined world, lie near your hearts. The world belongs to Jesus Christ in right of his Father's grant, and the purchase of his own death. He will yet redeem the promises, and take possession. In all the commotions that arise we may discern the signs of His coming. Confusion, oppression, injustice, misrule and agitation may for a season be endured, but cannot always nor much longer be protracted. "For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations." Labour and pray for the coming of that day; And may "the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work, to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever." Amen.

Signed, BAXTER DICKINSON, *Moderator.*
ERSKINE MASON, *Stated Clerk.*

A Declaration of the General Assembly, setting forth the Present Position of our Beloved Zion, and the Causes which have brought us into our Peculiar Condition.

It is manifest to the Christian world, that a great and grievous schism has taken place in the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, insomuch that brethren who used to walk together in the fellowship of the Gospel, now meet in separate ecclesiastical bodies, and have no organic relation to each other.

We, therefore, the Commissioners of that portion of our once united Church, which was separated from their brethren by the acts of the Assembly of 1837, wishing to free ourselves and our churches from the imputation of the sin of causing division and offences in the Church of the living God, do hereby set forth and declare to our brethren throughout the Christian world, the present attitude of that portion of the Church which we represent, and the causes which have produced the existing difficulties.

Rightly to understand the present posture of our affairs, and properly to appreciate the causes which have resulted in the rending of the American Presbyterian Church, it will be necessary to take a retrospective view of the introduction of Presbyterianism in our land, and of its history from the period of its introduction to the present time.

It will be found upon a reference to the history of by-gone days, that on the 6th day of April, 1691, the Presbyterian and Congregational denominations of Christians, in Great Britain, met at Stepney, and there by the blessing of Almighty God, after talking over their differences, and their agreements, consummated a union of the two denominations, by adopting what was then called the "Heads of Agreement," embracing a few cardinal principles which were to govern them in their fraternal intercourse.

This Presbyterian and Congregational Union, sent over one of their number by the name of McKemie as a Missionary, to the new settlements in America, who in connexion with Messrs. McNish, Andrews, Hampton, Taylor, Wilson, and Davis, in 1704, formed the first Presbytery which ever existed in America, by the name of the Presbytery of Philadelphia.—This mother Presbytery was formed upon the liberal Christian principles, which governed the London Association, by which Mr. McKemie was sent to this country, and was composed partly of Presbyterian and partly of Congregational ministers and churches. Mr. Andrews, the first pastor of the Metropolitan or First church in Philadelphia, was a decided Congregational Presbyterian; and the church over which he was placed, was under the care of the Presbytery sixty-four years, before they elected any ruling elders. This state of things continued until 1716, when the Synod of Philadelphia was formed out of the Presbyteries of Philadelphia, New Castle, Snow Hill, and Long Island, the last three having grown up after the formation of the first in 1704.

In 1730, fourteen years after the formation of the Synod of Philadelphia, the Rev. Mr. Andrews, in a letter to Mr. Prince, says that in the then existing state of things, "We all call ourselves Presbyterians, none pretending to be called Congregationalists, and our ministers are all Presbyterians, though most of them are from New England."

During all this period, the Church of Scotland, instead of imbibing the liberal principles of the age, which had resulted in the fraternal union of 1691, in London, and in the establishing of a modified Presbyterianism in America, still adhered to her arbitrary principles as will appear from the fact, that during the reign of Queen Ann, in 1712, only four years before the

formation of the Synod of Philadelphia, they solemnly bore their testimony against religious toleration.

In 1724, those ministers from Scotland, who came over to this country, and who in the language of the Rev. Dr. Miller, "were desirous to carry into effect the system to which they had been accustomed in all its extent and strictness," began to insist that the entire system of the Scottish Church be received in this country. This demand, led to the adopting act of 1729, which was a return to the liberal principles of 1691, upon which the Presbyterian Church in America was based, and is as follows: "Although the Synod do not claim or pretend to any authority of imposing our faith on other men's consciences, but do profess our just dissatisfaction with, and abhorrence of such impositions, and do not only disclaim all legislative power and authority in the Church, being willing to receive one another as Christ has received us to the glory of God, and admit to fellowship in church ordinances all such as we have grounds to believe that Christ will at last admit to the kingdom of heaven, yet we are undoubtedly obliged to take care that the faith once delivered to the saints, be kept pure and uncorrupt among us, and so handed down to our posterity; and do therefore agree, that all the ministers of this Synod, or that shall hereafter be admitted to this Synod, shall declare their agreement in, and approbation of the Confession of Faith, with the Larger and Shorter Catechisms of the Assembly of Divines at Westminster, as being in all essential and necessary articles, good forms and sound words, and systems of Christian doctrine, and do also adopt the said Confession of Faith and Catechisms, as the confession of our faith. And we do also agree that the Presbyteries within our bounds, shall always take care not to admit any candidate for the ministry, into the exercise of the sacred functions, but what declares his agreement in opinion with all the essential and necessary articles of said Confession, either by subscribing the said Confession of Faith and Catechisms, or by a verbal declaration of his assent thereto, as such minister or candidate shall think best. And in case any minister of this Synod, or any candidate for the ministry, shall have any scruples with regard to any article or articles of said Confession of Faith or Catechisms, he shall, at the time of his making such declaration, declare his sentiments to the Presbytery or Synod, who shall, notwithstanding, admit him to the exercise of the ministry within our bounds, and to ministerial communion, if either the Presbytery or Synod shall judge his scruples or mistakes to be only about articles not essential and necessary in doctrine, worship or government. But if the Synod or Presbytery shall judge such minister or candidate erroneous in essential and necessary articles of faith, the Synod or Presbytery shall declare him incapable of communion with them. And the Synod do solemnly agree, that none of us will traduce or use any opprobrious terms towards those who differ from us in those extra essential and not necessary points of doctrine, but treat them with the same friendship, kindness, and brotherly love, as if nothing had happened."

In 1730 we find the Presbytery of Newcastle, in the face of these conciliatory measures of the Synod, adopting the Confession of Faith and Catechisms, as being in all things agreeable to the word of God—and in 1732, the new Presbytery of Donegal, followed their example, and promised "forever thereafter to adhere thereto."

In 1736, that party who were in favor of the strong measures of the Scottish Church, had gained so much ascendency, that they brought a majority of the Synod to follow the example of the two presbyteries of Newcastle and Donegal, and adopt the Confession, Catechisms, and Directory of the Westminster divines; without alteration or exception, thus establishing

the power of the civil magistrate to control Synods and persecute the Church.

This rash departure from the tolerant and fraternal principles of 1691 in England, and of 1704 and 1729, in America, led to the painful schism of 1741 which resulted in the organization of the Synod of New York in 1745.

In 1758 the Synods of New York and Philadelphia, came together in one body, and took the name of the Synod of New York and Philadelphia; and in the 6th article of their union, they agreed to adopt the Confession of Faith, Catechisms, and Directory, as they had been adopted in 1729.

In 1766, eight years after the union of the Synods, under the name of the Synod of New York and Philadelphia, that body proposed an Annual Convention of delegates of the pastors of the Congregational, Consociated, and Presbyterian Churches in North America, which recommendation was complied with, and the convention was held annually for ten years, when it was interrupted by the American Revolution. In 1788, the General Assembly was organized, and in 1790, the Assembly, to use their own language, "being peculiarly desirous to renew and strengthen every bond of union between brethren, so nearly agreed in doctrine and forms of worship, as the Presbyterian and Congregational Churches evidently are; and remembering with much satisfaction, the mutual pleasure and advantage produced and received by their former intercourse, do resolve that the Congregational churches in New England be invited to renew their annual convention with the clergy of the Presbyterian Church." This resolution resulted in the Plan of Correspondence with the Congregational bodies of New England which exists to this day. This plan provides that "every preacher travelling from one body to the other, and properly recommended, shall be received as an authorized preacher of the Gospel, and cheerfully taken under the patronage of the Presbytery or Association, within whose limits he shall find employment as a preacher."

In 1801, the enlightened piety of the two denominations produced another Plan of Union, designed to promote the interests of religion in our new settlements, which strictly enjoined on all their missionaries to endeavor by all proper means to promote mutual forbearance and accommodation between those inhabitants who hold the Presbyterian, and those who hold the Congregational form of government, and provided a plan for establishing a uniform system of government among them, when associated in the same Church.

These Plans of Union between the two denominations, were a virtual recognition of the benign principles established in 1691, in England, and afterwards adopted in America, and made the basis of Presbyterianism in the original Presbytery and Synod of Philadelphia.

These fundamental principles continued to be recognized and acted upon by the Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, and the subordinate judicatories, with few exceptions, until 1837, when a majority of the Commissioners abrogated the Plan of Union of 1801, and cut off from the Presbyterian Church, four Synods, twenty-eight Presbyteries, 509 ministers, 599 churches, and 60,000 communicants, more than one fifth of the whole denomination, alleging that as they were brought into the Church under the Plan of Union of 1801, they necessarily fell with it.

As an alleged consequence of this act, they next proceeded to expel from the house all the Commissioners who were present from the Presbyteries composing the exscinded Synods, and dissolved the Third Presbytery of Philadelphia.

In 1838 the Commissioners from the exscinded Synods came up to the

General Assembly, and offered their Commissions to the Clerks, who refused to receive them or enrol the names of the said Commissioners. After the Moderator, Rev. David Elliot, D. D., had taken his chair, and the names of the enrolled members had been reported, Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., one of the enrolled members, presented the Commissions of the Commissioners from the exscinded Presbyteries, and moved that their names should then be enrolled. The Moderator decided that the motion was out of order. Dr. Mason then appealed to the house, and the Moderator refused to put the appeal. By this refusal, the rights of Dr. Mason, and the rights of the house, were invaded, and a question of privilege, which takes the precedence of all other questions, and is always in order, was raised. Hereupon Rev. John P. Cleveland, another enrolled member, moved that Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., should be appointed Moderator, in the room of Rev. David Elliot, D. D., who had invaded the rights of the Assembly, and put the question to the house, which was carried, as has since been proved in a civil court, by a majority of those who voted from the enrolled members. Rev. E. Mason, D. D., and Rev. E. W. Gilbert were then elected Clerks, and Dr. Fisher was chosen Moderator: and having been notified that they must leave the place where they were assembled, they forthwith adjourned to the First Presbyterian church, and invited all the Commissioners to meet with them.

After this organization, of what we consider the constitutional Assembly, the Commissioners who adhered to the acts of 1837, organized themselves into an Assembly, and have subsequently taken measures to divide the Presbyterian Church by organizing into separate Synods, Presbyteries, and churches, such minorities in different parts of the country as adhered to them, and when they had the majority, casting out such minorities as adhered to this Assembly.

After the proceedings of that portion of our brethren who had cast out and cut off the four Synods, and formed themselves into an Assembly, were published and known, the constitutional Assembly did, by its committee, issue a *Quo Warranto* out of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, to test the legality of the exscinding acts of 1837, and of the subsequent proceedings founded upon them, and, if possible, to restore the unity of the Church, and secure religious liberty. This cause was tried in March last, at Philadelphia, before the Hon. Molton C. Rogers, one of the Justices of said Supreme Court, when it was ruled by the said Judge, and decided by the verdict of an enlightened Jury, that the Plan of Union of 1801, "was not only a regulation which the General Assembly had power to make, but that it was one which was well calculated to promote the best interests of religion:" And that the acts of the Assembly of 1837, exscinding the four Synods, were "not only contrary to the eternal principles of justice, the principles of common law, but at variance with the constitution of the Church." And that the Assembly of which we are the successors, was the constitutional Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

The counsel for that Assembly, which was formed after the constitutional one which we represent, not satisfied with this decision, moved the Court in Bank for a new trial, and the said Court in Bank, the Hon. Molton C. Rogers dissenting, and the Hon. Judge Sergeant being absent, did award a new trial, upon the ground that the exscinding acts of 1837, were legislative, and not judicial, expressly declaring that if they had been judicial, they "would have been contrary to the cardinal principles of natural justice, and consequently void." The Court in Bank did, moreover, decide and declare that the Assembly of 1837 "did at first resolve to proceed judicially, but that the measure was abandoned, probably because it came to be perceived that the

Synods had committed no offence." Now the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the very tribunal which granted a new trial, have made a solemn decision, that the Assembly of 1837, determined at all events to get rid of 60,000 of their brethren, "first resolved to proceed judicially against them," but perceiving that they had committed no offence, changed their purpose, and, by a legislative act, cut them off from the Church, disfranchised them of their privileges, and deprived them of their share of the property and funds which had been contributed in part by themselves.

While we would submit to this decision of the Court in Bank, and recognise it as the law of Pennsylvania, till it shall be reversed, still we may lawfully appeal to the Christian public, as to the morality of those ecclesiastical proceedings of the Assemblies of '37 and '38, which are the basis of such opinion.

What must be thought of Christian ministers and elders, convened as a General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, who were so intent upon depriving 60,000 of their brethren of their religious privileges and church property, that they did as the Supreme Court has decided was the case, first resolve to proceed judicially against them, and. when they perceived that this would not answer their purpose, because they had been guilty of no offence, resolved to expel them by a legislative act?

From whence did the Assembly derive this legislative power? By the adopting act of 1729, which was made the basis of the union of the Synods of New York and Philadelphia in 1758, all legislative powers are expressly disclaimed, and in Book 1, Chap. 1, Sec. vii. of the Form of Government, as amended and ratified by the Assembly of 1821, we are told that the Assembly "were unanimously of the opinion, that all church power, whether exercised by the body in general, or in the way of representation by delegated authority, is only ministerial and declarative." The General Assembly acts by delegated authority, and yet after a unanimous decision in their constitutional Form of Government in 1821, that their power is only ministerial and declarative, in 1837, they, by what the Court say can only be sustained as a legislative act, disfranchise 60,000 of the members of the Presbyterian Church. If they had no legislative powers, then, according to the decision of the Court in Bank, as well as of Judge Rogers, at *Nisi Prius*, the act of excision in '37, was "contrary to the cardinal principles of natural justice, and consequently void."

But if we should, for one moment, grant what the whole Presbyterian Church in 1758 and 1821 expressly disclaimed, that the Assembly possessed legislative power, could they either legally or righteously legislate 60,000 of their brethren out of the Church? We ask in the language of Judge Rogers, what would be thought of a state that should legislate one of its members out of his elective franchise? It is a well known principle of law, as that learned Judge well remarks, that no man can be deprived of his elective franchise by a legislative act, this being a power which can only be exercised by a judicial tribunal.

But it is said, that as the four Synods came in under the Plan of Union, they must fall with that plan. If by the Synods coming in under this plan, we are to understand that they were organized in any different manner from all other Synods, the allegation is not true; and if it be meant that they were formed during its existence, the same is true of every Presbytery and Synod formed since 1801. How, then, we would ask. are the Synods or Presbyteries affected by the Plan of Union? No minister was ever received into any Presbytery, according to any provision in that plan, for it contains no such provision. But it is alleged by the exscinding brethren of '37, that

the Plan of Union of 1801, was unconstitutional and void from the beginning; but this, both Judge Rogers and the Court in Bank, declare to be incorrect, so that we have the anomaly of an ecclesiastical court justifying their acts on the grounds that the union of 1801 was unconstitutional, and a civil court sustaining this same decision upon the ground that the union was constitutional.

But there is another important fact which ought to be noticed, and that is, that in 1821, twenty years after the Plan of Union had been adopted, a new and amended constitution was framed and solemnly adopted by the Presbyteries, which have been exscinded, as well as their brethren of other Presbyteries, and that the whole Church, after living and acting together for sixteen years under this new constitution, is rent asunder by this act of excision, and 60,000 of its members attempted to be cut off from all participation in the privileges of that Church.

In view of these facts, we, the General Assembly convened in the First Presbyterian church, at Philadelphia, on the 16th day of May, 1839, appealing to Almighty God, for the purity of our motives, and the rectitude of our measures, and professing a deep regret for this grievous breach in the professed body of Christ, and solemnly protesting that the sin of this schism does not lie at our door, throw ourselves upon the candour and wisdom of the Christian world for the rectitude of our proceedings in the painful circumstances in which we have been placed.

(Signed,) BAXTER DICKINSON, *Mod'r.*
ERSKINE MASON, *Stated Cl'k.*

SUMMARY VIEW, for 1839.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Com. added on Certificate.	Total of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Funds raised for Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Funds for Commissioners.	Contingent Funds.	STATED CLERKS.
1. Londonderry	25	1	...	12	45	...	1902	2	72	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Edward L. Parker.
2. Newburyport	17	2	...	...	18	34	367	9	18	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	J. F. Stearns.
3. Champlain	21	...	...	17	44	8	905	...	34	$546 00	$25 00	.....	.....	.....	B. B. Newton.
4. Troy	...	...	...	...	268	85	2735	108	53	605 00	449 00	.....	$31 39	$140 00	N. S. S. Beman, D. D.
5. Albany	4	...	...	5	38	37	1076	14	40	1011 00	200 00	.....	.....	52 00	Thomas S. Wickes.
6. Columbia	29	4	7	22	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Thomas M. Smith.
7. St. Lawrence	5	...	...	7	16	39	591	8	30	596 00	160 00	.....	.....	6 00	B. B. Hotchkin.
8. Watertown,	13	1	...	21	78	39	1120	35	45	623 52	214 62	.....	47 11	32 05	Marcus Smith.
9. Oswego	13	...	...	24	54	51	778	21	44	598 94	155 60	.....	.....	.....	Robert W. Condit.
10. Oneida	38	9	...	36	105	74	1956	21	52	1083 67	336 19	.....	.....	.....	Oliver Wetmore.
11. Otsego	12	...	...	16	88	39	1896	45	56	2564 25	470 46	.....	.....	.....	Alfred E. Campbell.
12. Geneva	39	...	2	37	426	221	4116	170	214	7214 65	1450 00	$201 00	88 92	160 70	Thomas Lounsbury.
13. Chenango	15	...	...	19	19	29	496	5	20	474 39	63 34				
14. Onondaga	17	3	...	22	...	...	2497	...	122	1479 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	Hutchins Taylor.
15. Cayuga	37	13	4	30	199	...	2721	17	60	1040 50	233 43	.....	49 00		
16. Tioga	17	1	...	19	74	42	1356	41	52	613 19	.....	.....	10 00	43 75	Zenas Riggs.
17. Cortlandt	11	4	...	15	140	40	1849	43	66	1064 32	100 00	290 00	31 25		
18. Bath	11	1	...	19	61	54	939	26	55	624 25	.....	.....	31 73	52 00	B. Foster Pratt.
19. Delaware	7	...	...	19	56	22	900	30	24	227 42	.....	.....	18 25	14 00	Fordyce Harrington.
20. Chemung	15	...	...	23	81	31	931	31	43	501 58	21 00	.....	54 25	100 00	
21. Genessee	22	...	...	23	206	...	1264	50	41	746 84	34 00	.....	45 00		
22. Ontario	22	...	...	24	...	...	1087	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John Barnard, Jun.
23. Rochester	29	...	...	25	...	...	2859								
24. Niagara	17	...	...	15	166	63	1183	...	136	525 66	.....	.....	10 00	19 00	Richard Dunning.
25. Buffalo	35	5	...	43	169	100	2616	70	121	1671 91	313 31	57 00	108 00	93 00	A. T. Hopkins.
26. Angelica	14	...	...	21	218	47	1500	39	145	176 05	44 00	.....	22 57	.....	A. S. Allen.
27. Hudson	15	...	...	13	158	19	1708	56	26	650 00	90 00	25 00	22 50	22 42	Daniel T. Wood.
28. North River	16	4	...	21	...	...	2173	...	...	.....	.....	.....	... ..	.....	Robert G. Armstrong.
29. New York, 2nd	5	...	...	3	14	34	697	4	39	.....	.....	.....	35 00	16 00	Henry A. Rowland.
30. New York, 3rd	29	13	13	16	433	519	5625	...	447	2851 34	2399 99	.....	55 14	.....	Edwin F. Hatfield.
31. Long Island	12	...	...	12	61	12	1324	10	28	.....	.....	.....	18 17	.....	Abraham Line.
32. Brooklyn	10	...	...	4	105	114	1052	21	55	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel H. Cox, D. D.

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33. Newark	30	2	...	29	156	76	3210	44	187	$3561 00	$864 00	.....	.....	$134 00	Ebenezer Seymour.
34. Montrose	18	...	...	23	120	33	1154	38	56	440 60	.....	.....	.....	.....	James B. M'Creary.
35. Wilmington	10	...	...	10	12	24	1109	3	38	1168 95	419 00	.....	$56 62	46 50	E. W. Gilbert.
36. Lewes	5	1	...	12	25	1	638	1	28	86 50	.....	.....	7 25	.....	Isaac W. K. Handy.
37. Philadelphia, 3d	39	4	5	33	360	119	3145	...	281	624 06	392 60	.....	39 00	32 00	Robert Adair.
38. Erie	10	2	1	40	63	34	3386	11	50	293 76	190 00	.....	27 05	56 00	Pierce Chamberlain.
39. Grand River	27	1	1	35	110	98	1864	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John W. Beecher.
40. Portage	29	3	...	21	24	71	1723	5	90	1273 13	226 00	$12 00	35 60	.....	William Hanford.
41. Huron	18	1	...	25	63	97	1458	6	54	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Xenophon Betts.
42. Maumee	6	...	...	7	40	26	243	51	306	210 00	.....	.....	19 88	.....	Isaac Van Tassel.
43. Trumbull	7	...	...	16	12	17	1127	3	43	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Charles A. Boardman.
44. Lorain	11	4	1	10	...	35	368	10	3	.....	.....	.....	14 00	.....	Alfred H. Betts.
45. Cleveland	13	...	...	12	27	37	991	6	50	1032 00	356 00	.....	.....	.....	Joseph H. Breck.
46. Medina	10	...	...	14	80	19	681	17	27	59 00	49 50	.....	.....	.....	Lewis F. Laine.
47. Detroit	14	...	...	34	78	151	758	22	55	1348 51	440 11	.....	92 00	.....	A. S. Wells.
48. Monroe	11	...	...	15	29	80	739	17	65	961 00	70 00	.....	15 00	.....	Erastus N. Nichols.
49. St. Josephs	9	...	...	15	26	81	286	1	28	60 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	P. W. Warriner.
50. Marshall	11	...	...	13	73	127	509	20	33	41 71	.....	.....	2 00	.....	J. W. Allen.
51. Washtenaw	8	1	...	16	92	122	1009	26	51	176 00	70 56	.....	16 00	1 50	Ira M. Wead.
52. Kalamazoo	6	1	...	6	44	41	359	26	25	175 00	50 00	.....	38 00	.....	Silas Woodbury.
53. Athens	14	0	...	24	40	42	1281	20	26	242 00	180 00	.....	12 00	.....	D. Howe Allen.
54. Lancaster	13	...	...	16	100	24	795	8	59	1795 78	140 70	.....	43 00	.....	Francis Bartlett.
55. Marion	10	1	...	24	56	55	1005	5	53	246 97	.....	57 01	21 55	.....	Harry Vandeman.
56. Cincinnati	30	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Thomas J. Biggs.
57. Dayton	14	...	...	10	8	23	568	11	22	244 00	78 00	.....	106 00	.....	Benjamin Graves.
58. Ripley	10	1	...	12	50	26	282	10	42	379 50	88 00	.....	70 00	.....	Jesse H. Lockhart.
59. Salem	9	...	1	15	64	59	505	21	44	257 58	150 12	.....	52 74	.....	Solomon Kittridge.
60. Madison	7	...	...	13	44	27	663	20	14	739 37	273 50	.....	6 00	.....	James H. Johnston.
61. Crawfordsville	14	1	...	14	61	25	636	10	67	205 50	160 00	.....	.....	26 75	James Thompson.
62. Illinois	7	...	...	10	28	10	316	10	37	123 42	300 00	.....	.....	.....	Hugh Barr.
63. Sangamon	7	2	...	10	23	37	320	26	17	240 25	.....	.....	.....	.....	Dewey Whitney.
64. Ottawa	8	...	...	7	20	29	107	8	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John Blatchford.
65. Schuyler	9	...	...	9	32	34	386	1	24	140 00	136 00	.....	74 86	.....	Milton Kimball.
66. Palestine	5	...	...	3	...	...	92	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Enoch Kingsbury.

67. Peoria	6	...	...	7	25	41	319	9	16	$67 00	.....	.....	$32 00	.....	Lucian Farnham.
68. Alton	8	...	...	8	77	102	440	27	31	1148 00	$465 00	.....	.....	.....	Charles G. Selleck.
69. Knox	7	...	...	5	81	72	475	32	29	135 00	.....	.....	18 00	.....	J. Porter.
70. Missouri	7	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	R. L. M'Afee.
71. St. Louis	7	1	...	13	86	94	736	28	30	174 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	John F. Cowan.
72. St. Charles	13	1	4	20	121	83	823	51	59	108 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	George C. Wood.
73. Winchester	6	...	...	4	...	...	124	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	James W. Phillips.
74. Dist. of Columbia	11	2	...	9	52	33	1251	8	65	807 00	310 12	.....	5 00	$5 00	John Mines.
75. Hanover	4	...	...	4	...	...	292	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel Reeve.
76. Abingdon	7	...	...	14	10	2	574	...	23	50 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	Alexander M'Ewen.
77. Union	17	4	1	22	132	81	1669	37	67	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Fielding Pope.
78. French Broad	8	1	1	16	17	28	1292	4	46						
79. Holston	8	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John W. Cunningham.
80. Hiwassee	8														
81. New River	4	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	George Painter.
82. Shiloh	11	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John W. Hall.
83. Charleston Un	21	3	...	8	33	18	788	21	35	2080 00	110 00	.....	.....	.....	Benjamin Gildersleeve.
84. Clinton	9	...	...	14	189	25	434	70	44	279 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	A. Newton.
85. Arkansas	8	1	...	6	27	10	239	20	47	302 75	.....	.....	.....	.....	Joel Wood.
	1181	105	43	1286	4691	4067	100850	1630	4426	$45686 01	$12718 79	$642 00	$1231 63	$1052 67	

MINUTES, 1840.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian church in the city of Philadelphia, on the third Thursday of May, 1840, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Baxter Dickinson, D. D., Moderator of the last Assembly, from Isaiah, 32 : 15—"Until the Spirit be poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be counted for a forest."

After public worship the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions reported that the following persons present had been duly appointed Commissioners to this General Assembly, viz.:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Londonderry.		
Newburyport.		
Champlain,	Charles F. Halsey.	
Troy,	John F. Scovil.	
Albany,	Edward N. Kirk,	Cornelius Dubois.
Columbia.		

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

St. Lawrence.		
Watertown,	John H. Carle.	
Oswego,	John Gridley.	
Oneida,	Samuel Wells,	Gilbert M. Gifford, Daniel C. Mills.
Otsego,	Aaron P. Allen,	Ezra R. Brewer.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

Geneva,	Ovid Miner, Philip C. Hay, D. D.,	Arad Joy, *2 H. H. Seelye.
Chenango.		
Onondaga,	A. C. Tuttle,	Curtis J. Hurd.
Cayuga,	Baxter Dickinson, D. D., Leonard E. Lathrop.	
Tioga,	Charles White.	
Cortland,	2 Peter Lockwood.	
Bath.	John L. Morgan,	David Abbey.
Delaware,	Fordyce Harrington,	2 Ebenezer Gilbert.
Chemung,	Charles Goodrich.	
Ithaca,	William Wisner.	[4]

* The figures refer to the day of the sessions upon which the members took their seats.

IV. SYNOD OF GENESSEE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Genessee,	William H. Beecher,	P. A. Royce.
Ontario.		
Rochester.		
Niagara,	Milton Buttolph.	
Buffalo,	2 Sylvester Cowles.	
Angelica.		

V. SYNOD OF NEW-YORK.

Hudson,	Daniel T. Wood,	Benjamin Dunning.
North River,	William N. Sayre,	James Carman.
New-York, 2d,	Henry A. Rowland,	Dr. Matson Smith.
New-York, 3d,	James W. M'Lane,	G. U. Richards.
	Joel Parker,	
Long Island,	Daniel Beers.	
Brooklyn,	Samuel H. Cox, D. D.,	James Ruthven.

VI. SYNOD OF NEWARK.

Newark,	2 Richard F. Cleaveland.	
Montrose,	Joseph Barlow.	
Rockaway,	Barnabas King.	

VII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Wilmington,	George Foot,	A. Snow Naudain.
Lewes,	Henry C. Fries,	J. P. R. Gillis.
Philadelphia, 3d,	Eliakim Phelps,	John Lindsey,
	William Sterling,	R. W. Davenport.
Harrisburg,	Wm. R. De Witt, D. D.,	Thomas Urie.
Pittsburgh,	2 D. H. Riddle, D. D.,	2 Benj. A. Fahnestock.
Erie,	Nathaniel West.	

VIII. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

Grand River.		
Portage,	Samuel H. Whittlesey.	
Huron,	J. A. Hart,	6 Henry Brown.
Maumee.		
Trumbull,	E. B. Chamberlain,	Augustus Fuller.
Cleveland,	2 H. A. Reed.	
Medina.		

IX. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

Detroit.		
Monroe.		
St. Joseph.		
Marshall,		4 George W. Clark.
Washtenaw.		
Kalamazoo.		

[5]

X. SYNOD OF OHIO.

Athens,	Samuel Payne,	William Slocomb.
Lancaster,	Ebenezer Buckingham,	James Young.
Marion,	Henry Shedd.	

XI. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Cincinnati,	Thornton A. Mills,	Dr. George L. Weed.
Dayton,	William Gray.	
Ripley,	2 James Shaw.	

XII. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

Salem,	Solomon Kittredge.	
Madison,	Henry Little.	
Crawfordsville.		
Indianapolis,	Alvah G. Dunning.	

XIII. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

Illinois.		
Sangamon,	3 Lemuel Foster.	
Ottawa.		
Schuyler.		
Palestine.		
Peoria.		
Alton,	Daniel E. Manton.	
Knox,	John J. Miter.	

XIV. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

Missouri.		
St. Louis.		
St. Charles.		

XV. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

Winchester,	William Hill, D. D.,	John White.
Dist. of Columbia,	W. M'Lain.	
Hanover,	James H. C. Leach.	

XVI. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

Abingdon.		
Union.		
French Broad.		
Holston,		4 John Blair.
Kingston,	Thomas Brown.	
New River.		
Clinton.		
General Association of Connecticut,		Rev. Edwin Hall, Rev. Noah Coe, Rev. T. L. Shipman. [6]

The Committee further reported, that the Rev. Daniel E. Manton, of the Presbytery of Alton, appeared without a Commission, stating that his Commission had been sent by mail, and had not yet arrived.

His case was, on motion, referred to Messrs. Phelps, Lathrop, and Thornton A. Mills, as a *Committee of Elections.*

After a short conference, the Committee, satisfied of the fact of his having been regularly appointed, made a favorable report, and recommended that he be received. Ordered that his name be entered on the Roll.

Adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, half-past 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, who appeared and took their seats:

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Watertown,	John H. Carle.	
Otsego,	Aaron P. Allen,	Ezra R. Brewer.
Geneva,		Arad Joy.
Bath,	John C. Morgan,	David Abbey.
Indianapolis,	Alvah G. Dunning.	
Winchester,		John White.
Genessee,	William H. Beecher,	P. A. Royce.
Trumbull,		Augustus Fuller.
Albany,		Cornelius Dubois.
Hudson,	Daniel T. Wood.	
Niagara,	Milton Buttolph.	
Montrose,	Joseph Barlow.	
Long Island,	Daniel Beers,	
North River,	William N. Sayre,	James Carman.
General Association of Connecticut,		Rev. Edwin Hall,
		Rev. Noah Coe,
		Rev. T. L. Shipman.

The Rev. William Wisner was chosen Moderator, and the Rev. Henry A. Rowland, Temporary Clerk.

On motion of Dr. Hill, it was *Resolved* that the rules for the government of the Assembly be the same as were in force the last year.

The printed Minutes of the last General Assembly were distributed to the members.

Dr. Cox, one of the Delegates to the General Associations of Connecticut and Massachusetts, made a verbal report of his visit to those bodies, and his report was accepted and approved.

On motion of Dr. Dickinson, it was resolved to appoint the usual Standing Committees.

Resolved, That it be the order of the day for Monday morning next, [7] at 11 o'clock, to receive the Narratives of the Presbyteries on the State of Religion; and that the meeting on that occasion be held in the body of the church.

On motion of Dr. Cox, it was *Resolved*, that a Committee of seven members be appointed on the *Polity of the Church;* and that it be referred to this Committee to examine and settle the true Roll of the Presbyteries and Synods connected with the Assembly: and that they receive the reports of the several Presbyteries on amending the constitution of the Church.

Dr. Hill, Dr. Cox, Dr. Hay, and Messrs. Kirk, Leach, Richards, and Naudain, were appointed that Committee.

Dr. Dickinson, Dr. De Witt, and Messrs. Parker, Beecher, White, Ruthven and Joy, were appointed a *Committee of Bills and Overtures;* to meet at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning, and afterwards on their own adjournment.

Dr. Cox and Messrs. Lathrop, Gridley, Beers, King, Dr. Matson Smith, and James Young, were appointed a *Judicial Committee;* to meet this evening on the rising of the Assembly, and afterwards on their own adjournment.

It was recommended to the churches to observe the first Monday of Jan-

uary next, in the usual manner, as a day of prayer for the conversion of the world.

Messrs. Davenport, Urie, and Dr. Weed, were appointed a *Committee on Mileage.* The rule on page 28 of the Digest, in reference to mileage, was read by the Moderator.

Messrs. Kirk, Carle, Phelps, Whittlesey, and Mr. Hall, of the General Association of Connecticut, were appointed a *Committee on the Narrative.*

Messrs. Phelps, Brown, and Buckingham, were appointed a *Committee on Devotional Exercises.*

Messrs. Wells, Minor, Goodrich, Wood, and Carman, were appointed a *Committee on Leave of Absence.*

Adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday Morning, May 22, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional members, who appeared and took their seats: From the Presbytery of Delaware, Rev. Fordyce Harrington, and Ebenezer Gilbert, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Courtlandt, Rev. Peter Lockwood. From the Presbytery of Ripley, Rev. James Shaw. From the Presbytery of Geneva, H. H. Seeley, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Newark, Rev. Richard F. Cleaveland. From the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, Rev. D. H. Riddle, D. D., and Benjamin A. Fahnestock, Ruling Elder.

The Presbyteries were called in order for their answers to the Overtures sent down by the last General Assembly, in reference to alterations of the Constitution; and their answers were committed to the Committee on the Polity of the Church. [8]

A letter from the Synod of Ulster to this General Assembly was presented by the Stated Clerk, and after being read in full to the Assembly, was committed to Dr. Cox, Mr. West, and Dr. Hay, to consider and answer.

Dr. Dickinson, from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 1, viz.—A memorial from the Synods of Indiana and Cincinnati, requesting the Assembly to "Make the State line the division line between the two Synods." On motion of the Committee, the request of the memorialists was granted.

The following Committees were appointed to examine the records of the several Synods, viz. on the Records of the Synod of

Albany—Messrs. Gridley, Allen, and Gifford.
Utica—Messrs. Halsey, Scovill, and Dubois.
Geneva—Messrs. Sayre, W. M'Lain, and Benjamin Dunning.
Genessee—Dr. Dickinson, C. White, and Mr. Joy.
New-York—Messrs. Barlow, Foot, and Gillis.
Newark—Messrs. Hart, Chamberlain, and Fuller.
Pennsylvania—Messrs. Rowland, Brown, and John White.
Western Reserve—Messrs. Tuttle, Morgan, and Abbey.
Michigan—Messrs. Payne, Shedd, and Young.
Ohio—Messrs. T. A. Mills, Gray, and Dr. Weed.
Cincinnati—Messrs. Kittredge, Little, and Slocomb.
Indiana—Messrs. Miln, Sterling, and Lindsey.
Illinois—Dr. De Witt, and Messrs. West and Carman.
Missouri—Messrs. Brown, Phelps, and J. White.
Virginia—Messrs. Parker, Buttolph, and Fuller.

Tennessee—Messrs. Leach, Dr. Hay, and Mr. Hurd.

Receiving Statistical Reports from Presbyteries was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

Ordered, that the collections for the Contingent Fund be paid over to the Stated Clerk; and the collections for the Commissioners' Fund be paid over to the Chairman of the Committee on Mileage.

The subject of nominating and selecting Trustees of the General Assembly, and Directors of the Theological Seminaries, was referred to Messrs. Foot, T. A. Mills, and H. A. Rowland, to consider and report.

The Assembly then adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, P. M., half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the preceding Session were read and approved.

The Rev. H. A. Reed, from the Presbytery of Cleveland, and Rev. Sylvester Cowles, from the Presbytery of Buffalo, presented their Commissions, and were enrolled as members.

Dr. Cox, from the Judicial Committee, reported the "Complaint of William H. Beecher, and others, against a decision of the Synod of Genessee," as in order. The report was accepted, and, on motion, the case was taken up for consideration. [9]

The Moderator read the rule enjoining on the members to recollect and regard their high character as judges of a court of Jesus Christ, and the solemn duty in which they were about to act.

Mr. Buttolph, one of the Synod complained of, requested that counsel might be assigned to aid him in the defence of Synod. The Rev. Mr. Phelps was appointed.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 2, viz. Memorials from Presbyteries on the subject of Slavery; and also Overture No. 3, viz. A Communication from the Secretary of the American Colonization Society. The report was accepted, and, on motion, was laid upon the table.

The Committee gave it as their opinion, that after the full discussion of the subject before the last Assembly, and the decision then had, it is inexpedient for this Assembly to take any further action on the subject.

The Rev. Anson Rood, delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire and General Convention of Vermont, made a report of his attendance on those bodies. His report was accepted and approved.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday Morning, May 23, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer. The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read.

Rev. Lemuel Foster, from the Presbytery of Sangamon, presented his Commission and took his seat as a member.

The Statistical Reports of Presbyteries were called for, received, and committed to the Stated Clerk.

The Report of the Delegates to the Congregational Union of England and Wales was received and read. The report was accepted and approved.

A circular from a Committee of the American Temperance Union was received and read, and then committed to Dr. Riddle, Mr. Kirk, and Mr. Joy, to consider and report.

An invitation was received from the Inspectors of the Eastern Penitentiary to visit that Institution at such times as may be most convenient.

The Committees appointed to examine the Records of the several Synods reported, and on their recommendation, the Records of the Synods of Albany, Geneva, New-York, Newark, Western Reserve, Michigan, Virginia, Cincinnati, Pennsylvania, and Indiana, were approved.

The Records of the Synods of Ohio, Illinois, and Missouri, were not present, and the Committees appointed to examine them, were discharged.

Dr. Cox reported an answer to the letter from the Synod of Ulster, which was read and approved.

The unfinished business of the last evening, viz. the Complaint of William H. Beecher, *vs.* the Synod of Genessee, was resumed.

The parties having agreed on a statement of the points at issue, Mr. Beecher was heard in support of his complaint, and Mr. Phelps in defence of the Synod. [10]

The parties having been fully heard, were considered as withdrawn.

On motion of Dr. Cox, the whole subject was then referred to a Committee of three to digest and report a suitable judgment in the case. Dr. Cox, Dr. Dickinson, and Mr. Lathrop were appointed that Committee.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church made a report in part, and had leave to sit again.

The Report of the Committee of Overtures on Overtures Nos. 2 and 3, which had been laid upon the table, was taken up for consideration, and on motion was made the order of the day for Tuesday next at 9 o'clock.

The last motion was afterwards reconsidered and lost.

The Assembly then adjourned till Monday morning 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday Morning, May 25, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer. The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read.

Mr. George W. Clark, a Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Marshall, presented his Commission and took his seat as a Member.

Mr. Phelps, from the Committee on Devotional Exercises, made a report recommending that Wednesday morning next, after 11 o'clock, be set apart for religious services in the following order:

1. Invocation by the Moderator. 2. Singing and Prayer by Dr. De Witt. 3. Address by Mr. Leach. 4. Singing and Prayer by Dr. Riddle. 5. Address by Mr. Coe, of Connecticut. 6. Prayer by Mr. Shipman, of Connecticut. 7. Address by Dr. Cox. 8. Doxology and Benediction by Dr. Hill.

The report was adopted.

A nomination was made of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

Overture No. 2 on the subject of Slavery was taken up for consideration.

The Report was read, and is as follows:

"The Committee on Bills and Overtures report Overture No. 2, viz. Communications, to the number of twelve, on Slavery. Some of these papers consist simply of resolutions expressing the views of the respective Presbyteries on the subject of Slavery; and others are in the form of memorials asking the action of the Assembly with a view to the removal of Slavery from the churches; and one of these memorials desires the General Assembly to take no action on the subject."

On this Overture the Committee recommend the adoption of the following Preamble and Resolutions:

"*Whereas* the last Assembly received several memorials on Slavery, which were read, and the matter of them considered at much length; and *whereas*, after the full discussion, the Assembly, with great unanimity, referred the whole subject of the memorials to the lower judicatories, leaving it to them to take such order thereon as in their judgment will be most judicious and adapted to remove the evil;" Therefore,

"*Resolved*, That this Assembly regard the disposal which the last [11] Assembly made of this subject as wise; and that all further action on the subject by the General Assembly is at present inexpedient."

Mr. Lathrop moved that the Report of the Committee be adopted.

The reading of the memorials was called for; and, after some progress, at 11 o'clock the Assembly removed to the body of the church for the purpose of hearing the Narratives on the State of Religion.

After some progress, the Assembly adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

Monday, half-past 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz. the hearing of the Narratives on the state of religion, was resumed and finished.

The Assembly then proceeded to ballot for Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, and the ballots were committed to Messrs. M'Lane and King to canvass and report.

Dr. Cox from the Committee appointed to report a suitable Minute to be adopted in the case of the Complaint of William H. Beecher and others, reported the following, which was adopted:

"On the Complaint of Mr. William H. Beecher and others, against the Synod of Genessee, in the case of the Appeal of Dr. Frank from the decision of the Presbytery of Genessee, the General Assembly sustain the Complaint and reverse the judgment of the Synod on the following grounds, viz.

1. That the merits of the case seem to be expressly declined by the Synod as the subject matter of adjudication.

2. That the Synod appear not to have adhered to the alternatives prescribed by the Constitution. (See Book of Discipline, chap. 7, sect. 3, subsection 10.)

3. That the Synod seem to have forgotten the nature and the limits of their appellate, as distinguished from the original jurisdiction in the case; in that they censure at their bar the appellant in a way competent, in any circumstances, only to the session of the church to which the appellant was primarily amenable.

4. That they seem to have forgotten also, in restoring the appellant, that some expression of repentance ought to have been exacted, especially if their reprimand could, from any tribunal, have been deserved.

The Assembly therefore rule, that the Synod of Genessee should review their proceedings in this case; and, regarding alike the rules of the Constitution and the merits of the case, that they proceed to issue the same with equity and wisdom.

In the matter of defining in what calumny consists, as connected with the case, the Assembly feel it not necessary to express any opinion farther than to recommend the principles of our constitutional discipline.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made a further report, recommending the administration of the Lord's Supper on Wednesday next.

1. Invocation and Distribution of the bread, by Rev. Charles White. [12]
2. Distribution of the cup, by Rev. Mr. Lathrop.
3. Hymn and benediction, by the Moderator.

The above Report was adopted.

The consideration of the Report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on Overture No. 2, on the subject of Slavery, was resumed. The question being on the adoption of the Report of the Committee, Mr. Leach moved a postponement of Mr. Lathrop's motion, with a view to introduce the following substitute:

"*Whereas* slavery, as it exists in these United States, is a subject over which the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church has no control or power to legislate; and which was, after a thorough discussion by the last Assembly, referred to, and declared to belong to the inferior judicatories of the Church, whose local and relative business it is to inspect the moral and religious character and conduct of their own members; therefore

Resolved, That all memorials and petitions on the subject be considered as inappropriate to the functions and relations of the General Assembly."

While the subject was under discussion, the Assembly adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday Morning, May 26, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer. The Roll was called, and the Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Mr. John Blair, a ruling elder from the Presbytery of Holston, presented his Commission, and took his seat as a member.

The Records of the Synod of Genessee were approved, with the exception of the record relating to the appeal of Dr. Frank. For a view of the nature and extent of this exception the Synod are referred to a decision of this Assembly on a complaint of William H. Beecher and others.

The records of the Synod of Utica were approved, with the following exceptions:

1. That the Synod issued an appeal from the inferior judicatory, when it appeared before them that an appellant had not given notice in writing that he should appeal, with his reasons assigned for appealing, as required by the Book of Discipline, before the rising of the judicatory appealed from, or within ten days thereafter.

2. That the Synod violated the principles of the Constitution in qualifying the members of the inferior judicatory, to ascertain whether an appeal had been given; when the Book of Discipline requires, that the appeal shall be lodged in the hands of the Moderator; and further, that the inferior judicatory shall send authentic copies of all the records, and of all the testimony relating to the matter of appeal, up the Synod, whose duty it is to issue the appeal, when found to be in order and in accordance with the Book of Discipline.

Mr. M'Lane, from the Committee appointed to count the votes, re- [13] ported that the following persons were chosen Delegates to Corresponding Bodies:

To the *General Association of Connecticut*, the Rev. Eliakim Phelps, Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., and Rev. Ebenezer Cheever.

To the *General Association of Massachusetts*, the Rev. Mr. Phelps and Dr. Beman.

To the *Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island*, the Rev. Ebenezer Cheever.

To the *General Association of New Hampshire and Vermont*, the Rev. Thomas M'Auley, D. D., LL.D., and Rev. Leonard E. Lathrop.

To the *General Conference of Maine*, the Rev. William Patton, D. D.

The unfinished business of the last evening, viz. the consideration of the Report on Overture No. 2, was resumed.

The question being on the postponement of Mr. Lathrop's motion, to adopt the Report of the Committee, with a view to take up Mr. Leach's substitute, the discussion was continued for some time; when, on motion of Dr. Cox, the discussion was interrupted for the purpose of hearing the Report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The Report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church was then heard, accepted, and for the present laid upon the table.

The unfinished business was resumed, and after much discussion, the motion for postponement was put and lost.

An invitation was received from the Managers of the American Sunday-School Union, to attend their anniversary this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Copies of the last Annual Report of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions were presented, through Mr. Armstrong, their Secretary, for the use of the members of this Body.

Adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, half-past 3 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Dr. De Witt offered the following resolution, That the Report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church be recommitted to the Committee, that they may amend their Report, and so form the boundaries of the Synods, that no Synod shall embrace within its limits churches from both slave-holding and non-slave-holding States. The resolution was laid upon the table for the present.

The Committee of Overtures reported Overture No. 4. A memorial on the subject of Slavery. *Ordered* that it be placed upon the files with other memorials upon the same subject.

Also, Overture No. 5. On the Sabbath. Committed to Messrs. C. White, Gridley and Slocomb, to consider and report.

Mr. Kirk, from the Committee on the Narrative, presented their report, which was read, and for the present laid upon the table.

The Assembly then had recess till after the anniversary of the American Sunday-School Union.

After recess the Assembly resumed the unfinished business of the [14] morning, viz. the Report of the Committee of Overtures on the subject of Slavery.

Dr. Cox moved a postponement of the Report of the Committee to introduce a substitute. The motion for postponement was carried.

The substitute of Dr. Cox was then moved; and after some discussion, the whole subject was, on the motion of Mr. Kirk, indefinitely postponed.

The Assembly then adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday Morning, May 27, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called and the Minutes of yesterday were read.

Mr. Henry Brown, a ruling elder from the Presbytery of Huron, appeared and took his seat.

Dr. Cox moved a re-consideration of the vote for indefinite postponement, passed the last evening. The motion was carried.

The further consideration of the subject was then postponed till to-morrow.

Mr. Foot, from the Committee to nominate Trustees of the General Assembly and Directors of the Theological Seminaries, made a report, and on their recommendation it was

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to make any election of Trustees of the Assembly for the present year.

Nominations were made of Directors for the Princeton and Western Theological Seminaries; and the election of Directors was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning.

Mr. White, from the Committee on Overture No. 5, on the subject of the Sabbath, made a report, which was accepted, adopted, and is as follows:

"The General Assembly, believing the due observance of the Sabbath to be a duty of paramount and universal obligation, according to the law of God, as well as important to the prosperity of the church, the progress of religion, and the interests of the community, regard with deep regret and concern the prevalent desecration of that day in our land.

Therefore, be it

Resolved, 1. That Christian efforts being made to prevent the violation of the great law of the Sabbath receive our unqualified approbation.

2. That the promotion of a holy observance of the Sabbath in the churches, be commended to the vigilant attention of all the Synods, Presbyteries and Sessions connected with this General Assembly.

3. That it be solemnly recommended to all the pastors and ministers in connection with the General Assembly, that they preach on the subject of the obligation and excellence of the law of the Lord's day, as universal, perpetual, and indispensable; and that they do this in concert on Sabbath the 27th of June of the present year, and on the Lord's day next previous to the Fourth of July of every year, till the next Assembly." [15]

Dr. Riddle, from the Committee on the circular of the American Temperance Union, made a report, which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows:

"The General Assembly are fully alive to the interesting connection existing between the progress of temperance and the advancement of true religion, as strikingly and instructively developed by the events of recent times. This blessed reformation has been truly like the 'voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord.' They have watched with the liveliest interest the vicissitudes of this revolution in public sentiment, fraught with so many blessings to the social, civil, and spiritual interests of our race; and have at different times distinctly spoken out their sentiments, and added the whole weight of their influence to the onward movement. They have also, with great delight, anticipated the universal spread of temperance principles and practice throughout our own beloved land, and throughout the world. They have deplored the occasional apathy which has pervaded the public mind on this point. They have mourned over the divisions of sentiment among the true friends of the cause as to the best method of promoting its interests; and have marked the renovated hopes of the common enemy arising from these divisions.

"In accordance with the request of the respectable Association whose letter has been laid before us, the Assembly would once more commend this cause to the prayers and earnest efforts of the churches under our care; recommending to ministers to watch carefully the varying aspects of the reformation, and adjust their ministrations and influence wisely and constantly to its exigencies, urging it forward by all the solemn and weighty influences of the Sabbath and the sanctuary, and all the mighty motives which the subject naturally suggests, in connection with the political

interests, the social blessings, and eternal happiness of our fellow-men. Let the pulpit be always found to be the bulwark of true morality, the fountain of healthful principle, and above all of evangelical motives to the performance of the obvious duties of social life.

"The Assembly would also recommend to all the members of the churches under its care, to be found the fast, unflinching and active friends of temperance; abstaining from all forms and fashions which would countenance to any extent the sin of intemperance; avoiding even the appearance of evil; disentangling themselves from all implication with the traffic and manufacture; and especially presenting in their whole lives a standing and unvarying exemplification of the only true principle of temperance, total abstinence from every thing that will intoxicate.

"The Assembly would, with this expression of their views, leave the particular form of action to the wisdom and prudence of the judicatories, ministers and members of the body of which it is the aggregated and representative organ; praying the great Head of the Church that speedily this, and every other form of evil which has afflicted our world, and impeded the progress of the Gospel, may be taken out of the way."

Dr. Hay introduced a resolution in reference to the division of the Synod of Geneva, which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church. [16]

Dr. Cox moved the appointment of a Committee ad interim, to act in the intervals between this and the next General Assembly. Referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The Assembly then repaired to the body of the church, to engage, as before appointed, in devotional exercises.

After which the Assembly adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, half-past 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met in the church, and agreeably to previous appointment, celebrated the Lord's Supper; after which the Assembly returned to the lecture-room and resumed business.

The Assembly, on the motion of Dr. Cox, took up the Report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church; which, after being amended, was adopted, and is as follows:

Whereas it appears, by abundant evidence, to this Assembly, that another body claiming to be the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, at present exists, organized expressly on a 'new basis,' wholly unknown to the Constitution of our Church, and now holding their sessions in Ranstead Court, in this city: And,

Whereas it is also ascertained that a considerable number of the Presbyteries, formerly in connection with us, have, within the space of two years, withdrawn in fact from us, and are now in connection with the other body, to which we refer above: And,

Whereas, in times so extraordinary and so distressing to those who love the unity of the Church, and stand alone on the old basis of the Constitution of the same, rejecting every idea of any new basis; the conduct of our withdrawing brethren having made the exigency in which we are under the necessity of acting without a precedent and without a parallel: Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That having waited a sufficient time, sincerely desiring the return of our withdrawing brethren to the old basis, which we have never deserted; it is now the duty of this Assembly to declare their disunion, by their own act, from us; and to rectify the Roll of the Presbyteries that are the constituents of this Assembly accordingly.

2. That the following sixteen Synods be recognized as constitutionally remaining with us on the old and the true basis of the Presbyterian Church, viz. Albany, Utica, Geneva, Genessee, New-York, Newark, Pennsylvania, Western Reserve, Michigan, Ohio, Cincinnati, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Virginia, and Tennessee.

The Committee also report,

1. That the Overtures sent down to the Presbyteries, by the Assembly of 1839, have been affirmed in the responses, all three of them; there being 59 affirmatives for the first Overture; 57 for the second; and for the third 44.

The whole number of our Presbyteries last year was 85, of which, [17] consequently, the lowest majority is 43; and this number the Committee have therefore assumed as their criterion of the majority, according to the words of the Constitution.—See Form of Government, chapter 12, section 17.

2. That the paragraph appended to the Overtures having been also affirmed by 49 votes, the Committee have digested their results accordingly, and recommend that the Assembly now rule and ordain the following changes in the polity of the Presbyterian Church in these United States, viz.

(1.) That the ratio of Presbyterial representation be reduced to its minimum, altering our Form of Government, (chapter 12, section 2,) so that said section shall be hereafter alone, and in all, and read as follows, viz.—"The General Assembly shall consist of an equal delegation of Bishops and Ruling Elders from the Presbyteries, in the simple proportion of one minister and one elder from each Presbytery. And these Commissioners, so appointed, shall be styled Commissioners to the General Assembly.

(2.) That section 7 of the same chapter be so altered in its first sentence as to read as follows, viz.—"The General Assembly shall meet triennially, or once in three years, and ordinarily on the third Thursday of the month of May, in every third year.

(3.) That section 8 of the same be so practically modified, and every other part and provision of the Constitution with it conformably, that the present changes, as herein above specified, shall be maintained inviolate, and shall go into full force and operation as the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

The Committee further report, that it be recommended to all the lower judicatories of our Church, to consider well of these changes, that they be introduced wisely and established permanently in the whole Church; and particularly,

1. That the Synods, by having henceforth in their own bodies the final appellate jurisdiction in the Church, are placed under increased obligations correctly to interpret the Constitution; wisely to heal divisions, to promote purity, peace and unity; to show forbearance and the meekness of wisdom in all their deliberations and decisions; to watch over their extensive charges with paternal tenderness and love; and to do all things in their new relations as Provincial Assemblies, respectively, in their appropriate spheres, for the edification of the Church of God, the good of our common country, and the advancement of the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

2. That the Presbyteries be regulated in numbers, and in reference to the erection of new ones, as much as practicable, by a desirable medium, as neither too small nor too large: that Presbyteries be not unnecessarily divided or multiplied on the one hand, nor allowed to be unwieldy or of disproportionate numbers on the other. And in general we judge, with reference to the late ratio of representation, that other things being equal,

it is undesirable that any Presbytery should contain more than twenty-four ministers.

3. That the pastoral office should be more and more highly appreciated, practically honored, and mainly promoted, in all our judicatories and [18] churches, as the ordinary, the permanent, and the incomparable way of the Lord, in promoting his own cause, and in educating his people for heaven.

The Committee further report and recommend that it be ordained by the General Assembly, in reference to the Synods of New-York and of Newark, that they be united into one Synod to be called "The Synod of New-York and New-Jersey;" and that said Synod meet in the city of New-York, in the Pearl-street Presbyterian church, on the evening of the third Tuesday of October next, at 7 o'clock, and be opened with a sermon, by the Rev. Samuel Fisher, D. D., or, in case of his absence or inability to act, by the Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D.

It was further *Ordered* by the Assembly that the Presbytery of Montrose may have their election, whether they shall belong to the Synod of New-York and New-Jersey or to the Synod of Geneva, or to the Synod of Pennsylvania; provided they decide and signify their decision to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly before the first of October next; and in case of their failure to take the requisite order in the premises, that then they remain in their present connection with the Synod of New-York and New-Jersey.

It was further *Ordered*, that the Presbytery of Delaware be permitted, if such shall be their election, to join the Synod of Albany. Notice to be given, as in the case of the Presbytery of Montrose, by the first of September.

Dr. Cox, Dr. Hay, and Mr. Miner, were appointed a Committee to consider and report on the subject of Psalmody.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday Morning, May 28, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called and the Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Leave of absence had been given to Messrs. Dickinson, Sayre, Beers, Brewer, Miter, Cowles, Miner, Slocomb, Wood, Royce, De Witt, Hill, and Seelye.

The order of the day, viz. the election of Directors of the Theological Seminaries, was attended to, and the ballots were committed to Messrs. Phelps, Gridley, and Brown, to canvass and report the result.

The subject laid over from yesterday, viz. the consideration of Dr. Cox's resolution on the subject of ecclesiastical action in reference to Slavery, was taken up.

Dr. Cox asked leave to withdraw his motion. Leave was given.

Dr. Hay then offered the following resolution:

"*Whereas* Slavery as it exists in these United States is interwoven with the civil polity of those portions of the Union where it is found; and on this account all ecclesiastical action in relation to it by the General Assembly is rendered extremely difficult and of doubtful utility, therefore, *Resolved*, that it is inexpedient to take any action in relation to the subject."

On motion of Dr. Cox, the resolution was amended as follows—"that [19] any action different from the action of the Assembly of last year be declined by this Assembly."

Mr. Shedd moved to postpone Dr. Hay's resolution, with a view to introduce the following substitute, viz.

"*Resolved*, That this Assembly re-affirms the language of the General Assembly of 1818, respecting the nature and character of Slavery contained in the Digest, pp. 341–2; and does most affectionately and solemnly refer the whole subject to our churches and lower judicatories; leaving it to them to take such order thereon as in their judgment will be most judicious and adapted to remove the evil."

The motion of Mr. Shedd was lost.

Mr. Wells moved the following as a substitute:

Whereas, voluntary Slavery as it exists in the United States, although in itself a violation of the rights of man and of the law of God, is so interwoven with the civil polity of those portions of the Union where it exists as to render ecclesiastical action extremely difficult; therefore, *Resolved*, That this Assembly take no further action on the subject.

Dr. Cox moved an indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

On this question Mr. Gridley called for the Ayes and Noes. The Assembly refused.

The motion for indefinite postponement was put and carried.

The following persons wished to have their names entered on the Minutes of the Assembly, as dissenting from the foregoing vote: Milton Buttolph, G. W. Clarke, Gilbert M. Gifford, Cornelius Dubois, James Shaw, J. J. Miter, John Gridley, Samuel Wells, E. B. Chamberlain, and Henry Shedd.

Mr. Brown, from the Committee to count the ballots, reported that the following persons were elected Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, viz.:

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D.,	Silas Condit,
Edward Allen,	
William Timlow,	James C. Bliss,
Henry White,	James Ruthven.
Henry P. Tappan,	
John L. Grant,	
James H. C. Leach,	
Barnabas King.	

And the following were elected Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, viz.:

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Matthew Brown, D. D.,	
William T. Sprole,	
William R. De Witt, D. D.,	Benjamin A. Fahnestock,
S. M. Sparks,	John Herron,
James M. Davis,	John Wright.
D. L. Carroll, D. D.,	
Nathaniel West,	

[20]

On motion of Mr. Parker, *Resolved*, that the Assembly will hear Mr. Thomas Hastings on the subject of "Musical Elocution," at half-past 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Dr. Cox, from the Committee on the Polity of the Church, made a further report, which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows:

"*Resolved*, That the Stated Clerk of the Assembly be instructed to give

the due publicity to the Acts of the Assembly, in reference to the Synod of New-York and New-Jersey, that there may be a proper preparation, and that all concerned may be informed on the subject.

Resolved, further, that there be erected a Committee ad interim, or a Consulting Committee, of five ministers and five ruling elders, with powers to fill their own vacancies; to correspond with foreign and domestic bodies, in behalf of our Church as represented in the General Assembly; to give counsel in reference to any practical questions that may arise in the subsequent three years touching the collective interests of our Church; to fill any vacancies that may occur in the same time in the clerkships of the Assembly; to have, in connection with the Stated and Permanent Clerks, the custody of all the papers, manuscripts, books and records of the Assembly; and to deliberate and decide on any publication that it may seem proper to make, signed by their Chairman or the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, in vindication of the truth, and in support of the true positions and interests of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, with the injunction to preserve minutes of their proceedings, and report the same to the next Assembly, subject to their approbation or disapprobation of their acts. Of this Committee three ministers and two elders, regularly convened, shall be a quorum for the transaction of business; and the three Clerks of the Assembly shall be *ex officio* members of said Committee.

The following persons were appointed, in connection with the Clerks, the *Committee ad interim: Ministers*, Samuel H. Cox, D. D., Philip C. Hay, D. D., William Adams, Albert Barnes, David H. Riddle, D. D.; *Elders*, James Ruthven, Gustavus U. Richards, F. A. Raybold, Dr. Matson Smith, Christopher R. Robert.

Resolved, further, That the subject of publishing our standards, with our Form of Government and Book of Discipline, as now adopted by the Assembly, be referred to the Consulting Committee.

Resolved, That the New-York Theological Seminary be recommended to the confidence and the patronage of all our churches, especially in the districts of the Atlantic cities of our country, as needing and deserving of their prayers and their assistance, as well as their good will and their consideration in these times of its necessity and trials, and its great prosperity too in almost all other than its pecuniary relations.

Messrs. Phelps, White and Lockwood were, on motion, appointed a Committee to take into consideration, the subject of more efficient action in our churches in reference to *benevolent societies*, to report as soon as convenient. [21]

The subject of correspondence on the subject of the Sabbath was, on motion, referred to the Committee ad interim.

Adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, P. M., half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Assembly spent some time in listening to Mr. Thomas Hastings on the subject of sacred vocal music. After which Mr. J. M'Lane was appointed on the Committee on Psalmody, in place of Mr. Miner, excused.

Mr. Phelps, from the Committee on Benevolent Societies, made a report, which was accepted, adopted, and is as follows:

1. This Assembly would recognize, with devout gratitude to God, the success that has attended the labors of most of our great national societies

during the last year; that notwithstanding the unprecedented commercial embarrassments by which the year has been distinguished, most of these societies have been enabled to prosecute their work, and, with few exceptions, to meet and sustain all their responsibilities.

The Assembly have in these facts an additional proof that some at least of these contributions to this cause, are made from principle, and that Christians are ready, to some extent, to make sacrifices in the cause of Christ.

2. That the Assembly recognise with pain the fact, that while some have done so nobly and so well, yet the number of contributors to the cause, compared with the whole number in our communion, is lamentably small. The largest portion, by far, of our communicants withholding their contributions altogether.

3. That it be recommended to our Synods, Presbyteries, and church sessions, to devise, if possible, some method by which a more general application shall be made to every member of the Church; so that our whole Church may be engaged to take a part in the glorious enterprise of reclaiming the world to Christ.

4. That it be commended to the attention of pastors and stated preachers in our Church, to consider well if more cannot be done by them in the advocacy of benevolent action, and in the collection of funds, than has hitherto been attempted; the Assembly being fully satisfied that no person can be so well qualified to judge what are the best means to be employed in any given case as the pastor of the congregation.

5. That the Assembly recommend to all the congregations connected with this Body, the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions; the American Bible Society; the American Education Society; the American Home Missionary Society; the American Tract Society, and the American Sunday-School Union, as institutions every way worthy of patronage and support; and as affording safe, convenient, and perhaps the best channels through which their contributions may reach the objects contemplated respectively by these Societies. [22]

6. That this Assembly are fully satisfied that neither of these enterprises is in a condition at present to dispense with the employment of agents, yet they are fully satisfied that a much smaller number would be demanded, and those employed enabled to extend their labors, each to a much larger field, if a portion of the labor in collecting funds could be performed by collectors, male and female, appointed in each congregation for the purpose. They therefore recommend to pastors, sessions, and friends of the cause generally, such organizations in the respective congregations as shall bring the leading enterprises of benevolence before every member of the Church, without the personal application of an agent every year.

7. This Assembly highly approves the measure lately introduced, of connecting religious anniversaries with the meeting of the General Assembly; and recommend that these meetings of the Assembly hereafter, in other respects, assume more than has been the case heretofore, a purely religious character; grave and holy convocations of the Church, for the promotion of the interests of truth, piety and benevolence.

Finally, this Assembly believes fully that the world is to be reclaimed to Christ through the instrumentality of the Church, and that a responsibility of a high and awful import in this particular rests upon the Church now; and that the present aspect of the world affords abundant encouragement to increased efforts, self-denial, and prayer, and good ground for hope, that the time of the final triumph of the Gospel is near at hand. May the good Lord hasten on the work.

The Narrative on the State of Religion was then taken up for consideration, and adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix.

The Overture No. 3, on Colonization, was taken up, and the report of the Committee, recommending that no action be taken at present on the subject, was adopted.

The Committee on Mileage reported that the sum of three hundred and seventy-one dollars and thirty-one cents ($371 31) has been received for the Commissioners' Fund. This sum, apportioned in conformity to the rule of the Assembly, gives to each Commissioner who has made application for his proportion of the fund a dividend of two dollars eighty-four cents for one hundred miles, travelled in attendance on this meeting.

The report was adopted, and the Committee were directed to pay the Commissioners accordingly.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday Morning, May 29.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Stated Clerk made a report of the state of the Treasury, showing a balance of fifty-four dollars ninety-nine cents in his hands, which was accepted and approved. [23]

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that Messrs. T. A. Mills, D. C. Mills, Foster, Abbey, Dunning, Joy, Smith, Gifford, Young, Dubois and Buttolph have received leave of absence.

The printing of the Minutes of this Assembly was referred to the discretion of the Consulting Committee.

On motion of Dr. Cox, the following Declaration of Principles was adopted, with one dissenting voice.

"*Whereas* the principles of inviolable constitutional law are at the basis of all that is genuine and all that is excellent in the structure of civilized society; as in the Church of God their importance is paramount, more eminently, in proportion to the grandeur and glory of that incomparable commonwealth; and *whereas* in our country, in our times, and in our Church, it becomes increasingly a matter of appropriate duty, as well as honor, to guard those principles with scrupulous fidelity and incessant vigilance; therefore,

Resolved by this Assembly, That these principles, according to the excellent standards in doctrine and polity of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, be solemnly commended to the review, and the care, and the practical recognition of all the officers, members and judicatories of our Church; as fundamental to all our associate interests, our noblest hopes, and the glory of God throughout the entire boundaries of our Zion: that our exemplary consistency in all things may be every where discernible; that the ægis of constitutional protection, the birth-right of every Presbyterian, may be continually around him, presenting his rights, and maintaining his confidence, as well as indicating his duties; that no man may be impeached, discredited, or disfranchised by private judgment, the spirit of calumny, or any other anti-constitutional process, in our whole connection; that a charitable construction of the motives and the characters of all our fellow-servants as brethren in Christ, so long especially as they remain in our communion, in good standing, as members of his body, or officers of his kingdom, may be every where cultivated, as devoutly obligatory as well as courteous and proper; that no member should be dis-

qualified or divested of his constitutional privileges, in any circumstances, but as the result of a fair and regular process of trial; and that all the community may see and know our grand position as a Church, to be one equally tenable, sincere and impregnable, as well as consistently and constantly maintained; that the constitution is no nullity with us, but a grand and inviolable charter of compact with each other, and with God; which, by his grace and truth in Christ Jesus our Saviour, we are all determined to preserve unsullied, and inviolable, in all our ecclesiastical administration, to his glory and the progress of his own eternal cause among us and throughout our beloved country, the east and the west, the north and the south, with impartiality and cordiality to the end."

The Assembly then went into an interlocutory meeting to hear the report of the "Committee of Twenty," appointed by the last Assembly to superintend the law suit, &c., Dr. Hay in the Chair.

The whole of the morning was spent in interlocutory session.

At one o'clock the Committee rose—the Assembly adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [24]

Friday, half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

On motion of Dr. Cox, the whole subject of Psalmody, with the procuring and furnishing an edition of Psalms and Hymns for our general use, in a way involving no pecuniary responsibility to the Assembly, was referred to the Consulting Committee, for their deliberation and action, as they may deem proper and practicable.

The Committee appointed by the Assembly of 1838 to prepare a full Digest of the Acts of the Assembly, reported that they were engaged in the duty assigned them, but were not at present prepared to make a final report. The report was accepted, and the Committee were continued.

The Assembly then went again into the Committee of the whole; and after some time the Committee rose and reported the following resolution:

"*Whereas* it appears from memorials sent up to this Assembly, that several of our Presbyteries have adopted resolutions excluding slaveholders from their pulpits and from their communion; and *whereas* our Constitution requires that no member of the Presbyterian Church shall be thus disfranchised without a regular trial and conviction; and *whereas* this proceeding is a repetition of the exscinding acts of the new basis Assembly, against which we have taken our stand as friends of the Constitution: therefore,

Resolved, That the said Presbyteries be requested to rescind such resolutions."

The foregoing resolution was, with one dissenting voice, adopted.

Mr. West then offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

"*Whereas* this General Assembly have had many and difficult questions to discuss, and some of them of a very exciting nature,

Resolved, That we record our thanks to Almighty God, for conducting us as an Assembly to the close of our sessions in so much peace and harmony, in all the circumstances and difficulties in which we were placed."

Ordered, that the Stated Clerk issue a circular, requesting the Presbyteries to forward to him, as soon as possible, the amounts of their respective assessments for the Contingent Fund.

Ordered, that the Stated Clerk pay the janitor's bill, and the salaries of the Permanent and Stated Clerks.

The report of the Committee of Twelve, presented this morning, was accepted and approved.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the citizens of Philadelphia for their kindness and hospitality to its members; and also to the Trustees of the First Presbyterian church, for the use of their church and lecture-room during the session of this Assembly.

The Assembly having finished its business, *Resolved*, That this General Assembly be dissolved, and that another Assembly, chosen in like manner, be required to meet in the First Presbyterian church in the city of Philadelphia, on the third Thursday of May, 1843.

Accordingly the Moderator dissolved the Assembly with prayer and singing, and the apostolic benediction.

E. W. GILBERT, *Permanent Clerk.*

Philadelphia, May 29, 1840.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION

Within the Bounds of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, during the Year last past.

It is an excellent custom of our ecclesiastical bodies, to note annually the changing moral phases of the community in the midst of which we live; to mark from year to year the causes which are acting beneficially or injuriously on the progress of piety; to signalize the triumphs of heaven's King, our Redeemer; to call attention to the woes which may afflict one part of the Church; to give the alarm when error and irregularity are threatening an invasion; to bring before the discouraged the successes which are cheering the hearts of their more favored brethren; and to cast the burdens of the weak upon those whom it has pleased the Lord to strengthen. This is, in fact, the very highest object aimed at by our fathers in the organization of one National Ecclesiastical Assembly; an object most unhappily lost sight of for years in this body, where the heart has been chilled in the wintry frosts of controversy; and where, instead of the heavenly dispositions of charity and meekness, have been cherished the earthly passions of anger and revenge, ambition and malice. But we hope that the Head of the Church has now brought us to better days. We trust that the character of each future Assembly will be such as to make the most pious of our ministers and elders rejoice in the prospect of mingling in its holy festivities. We should here take such a survey of the condition of our beloved country, as to incite a growing interest in its spiritual welfare; and such a view of the state of Zion, as to bring our hearts into holier and closer sympathy with the whole body of Christ.

The reports from the lower bodies have not been as full as is desirable. Out of the eighty-eight Presbyteries connected with this Assembly, not more than half reported the state of religion within their bounds. We trust that hereafter all our brethren will feel more deeply the importance of contributing their share to make our moral statistics complete, and to enable the Assembly to give the exact features of light and shade to the ecclesiastical map of our Church. Our branch of the Church is now bound together by ties of peculiar strength —the ties of cordial and liberal fraternity between men who agree sufficiently to work together without collision. It is of the utmost importance that we

know each other more intimately; that we try to form ourselves into a golden chain of charity, which shall contribute to bind this immense country so strongly together that the various local interests and jealousies tending to sever us may find themselves by it checked and neutralized. Such the Assembly deems to be the design, in part, of the narratives from the Presbyteries, and of this annual summary of those narratives—even to secure a more intimate acquaintance and cordial affection between the East and the West, the North and the South.

The religious history of a people includes as well the providential preparations and concomitants of the work of the Spirit, as that work itself. The dealings of the providence of God towards our country have been so peculiar during the past year as to have attracted the attention of many of the Presbyteries, and to have been deemed worthy by them of a special notice. They have a two-fold aspect of righteous severity and exceeding mercy. We are an enterprising people. The world stood astonished at our extending commerce, our accumulating wealth, our vast system of internal improvement. But on each of these points of national pride and self-confidence God has sternly rebuked us. The spirit of gambling in the form of speculation had become the infection even of the Church. Here again we have been chastised. Our sectarian pride has been rebuked, oh how sternly! Our General Assembly, after having been for years a by-word to the world, and giving occasion to say, "Behold how these Presbyterians hate one another," has at last been rent asunder; and two-fifths of a Church so strong in number, in intelligence, and social influence, so richly endowed with the means of securing a highly cultivated ministry;—two-fifths have left us, and sent through the length and breadth of our spiritual borders the spirit of contention, and denunciation, and division. We speak not here in censure of man; we speak facts only, and view chiefly in them the rod of a righteous Providence. It is afflicting, but the Lord hath done it. Brethren who love each other, brethren who have no reason for separation, are now more widely separated in some instances than if they were members of the most widely separated sects. But He who is wonderful in working hath overruled all this for good in the most surprising and glorious manner. At the close of the last summer, the minds of men seemed to be laboring under unusual depression. The spirit of commercial enterprise had been damped; care, and anxiety, and despair had thrown a gloom over the minds of hundreds. The Church had shared too in this depression, and felt her own sorrows also. Controversies and alienations, reproaches and schisms, had wrought their own legitimate issues; and even revivals seemed to be no longer sought nor desired. The history of extravagances and of their evil consequences, had alienated the hearts of many of God's faithful servants from those means which he has blessed in every age of the Church for the more rapid advancement of his cause. But this hour of darkness, truly, was the harbinger of the bursting beams of the morning. A day has been given to the Church long to be remembered with thanksgiving; a day that will be hallowed in the memory of thousands who have passed from darkness to light, from death to life, from earthly to immortal hopes, from the prospect of everlasting ruin to the bright expectation of eternal life by Jesus Christ. And for this glorious work of mercy these very rebukes and chastisements of Providence were the preparatives. Worldly prosperity, the love of money, proud confidence in ourselves, had hardened the heart of this nation, and hindered the impression of the word and Spirit of grace. These thunder-storms disintegrated the rock, purified the spiritual atmosphere, mellowed and moistened the soil, and prepared it for the "seed of the kingdom." The world was chastened and sub-

dued, the Church was humbled and made penitent. Of this display of mercy we shall speak more particularly after taking a more general survey of one or two other aspects.

The Progress of Moral Principle.

With the general progress of religion in the Church, the standard of morality in the world appears to be rising. If it is declining on any point, it is in regard to the moral obligation of the debtor, after his legal obligation has ceased by anything but the payment of his debts; and perhaps, then, in declension too, in reference to the sacred right of character. But from almost every quarter we are told that the lax principles of infidelity are losing ground; the outward respect to the Sabbath is increasing; the checks to licentiousness are multiplied; and the important principles of the temperance cause are more and more extensively adopted.

The External Prosperity of the Church.

From every quarter the accounts in this respect are cheering. New churches are springing up as offsets from older ones, or under the labors of our faithful evangelists. Feeble churches, especially in our new and frontier settlements, have been greatly strengthened during the past year. The progress of some of them is most cheering; and their determination to secure the permanent guidance of faithful pastors is a promise of their future prosperity. Our older churches have been strengthened in an unwonted degree. From the forty Presbyteries who reported, nearly 8000 members are said to have been received into our churches. If the other forty-eight have been equally blessed, or even to a less degree, we may safely estimate the increase of our churches as having been the number of from 12,000 to 15,000. Large numbers of these are heads of families and young men, many of them destined to occupy positions of great importance in society.

Spiritual Prosperity of the Church.

In a very few places religion is languishing: at the commencement of the year it was so in most of our churches. But the Lord hath visited his people and caused the heart of his chosen to rejoice. In describing the recent and yet advancing revivals of religion, we would mark their extent, the means employed for their commencement and progress, their characteristics, and their consequences. Their territory has been at least one-half the ground occupied by our churches; their results in hopeful conversions at least from 12,000 to 15,000 who remain attached to our congregations, besides perhaps 10,000 more who have joined other religious bodies. Religion has triumphed indeed in high places. Most of our great Atlantic cities have shared in the richest measures of its new blessings. Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York, as well as many of our inland cities, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Cincinnati and New Orleans, have seen the stately steppings of Zion's King. And so manifest has his presence been, that even our political journalists have acknowledged to a remarkable extent that God was doing his own great work of mercy: and of the magnitude of the work we have one striking proof in the fact, that many who intended to deliberate with us in this session, have found it impossible to leave the blessed occupation which has thus accumulated on their hands. Various means have been noticed as owned of God to secure the great results in which so many are rejoicing; several have traced them to the exercises of the first of January, the day of missionary zeal and prayer, as their first instrumental cause. While Christians were

humbling themselves on account of the perishing heathen, and pleading the promises of the covenant in behalf of distant tribes and nations, the Spirit descended in his sovereign mercy upon their lot, and answered them while they were yet speaking. The means employed to advance the work, were those which God has never failed to bless; special fasting and humiliation; special visitations and personal conversations with impenitent friends and neighbors concerning their eternal well-being; special and daily meetings for social prayer; meetings of the inquirers for personal conversation; the mutual exhortations of the church; and the more continuous exhibition of the Gospel in preaching. It has been a very delightful feature of this work, that in general it has been conducted by the pastors alone, aided in a few instances by ministers without a pastoral charge. The prominent features of this dispensation of mercy are worthy of special notice, and must be marked by the future historian of the Church. One is that the interval between these seasons of grace and those before enjoyed, is a diminished interval. The length of our spiritual winters is diminishing. We are moving nearer to the equatorial regions, where the bloomings of a perpetual spring mingle with the richness and fruitfulness of a perpetual autumn. And those who complain of the fitfulness and periodical character of our revivals, must in consistency vent their opposition equally against our returning spring. To them we should say, in the language of Milton, "With as good a plea might the dead palsy boast to a man, It is I that free you from stitches and pains, and the troublesome feeling of cold and heat, of wounds and strokes; if I were gone, all these would molest you. The winter might as well vaunt itself against the spring; I destroy all noisome and rank weeds, I keep down all pestilent vapors. Yes, and you keep down all wholesome herbs and all fresh dews by your violent and hidebound frost; but when the gentle west wind shall open the fruitful bosom of the earth, thus over-girded by your imprisonment, then the flowers put forth and spring, and then the sun shall scatter the mists, and the manuring hand of the tiller shall root up all that burdens the soil, without thanks to your bondage." Objections to the periodical character of revivals are all compliments to the state of barrenness and death which intervenes between these seasons of life and joy. We hail them with devout gratitude, and only lament that our unfaithful hearts can let the good Spirit go. Another feature of these revivals is, that they produce less unprofitable and exhausting excitement. Leaders have been less occupied than formerly in wondering at the revival as an abstract object of admiration, and have been more concerned in the detail of saving souls; less concerned to "number the people" than to warn the perishing. Health and strength have been less exhausted than usual; and the revival, like a healthful stream, has been flowing in its fertilizing movement peacefully by the side of the ordinary occupations of life. The manifested presence of God in the assembly of the saints; his preventing mercies in making the impenitent unusually disposed to religious conversation; the increased spirit of union between the sects; the majestic march of truth which has silenced the gainsayer; the overcoming of prejudice which has brought into our sanctuaries thousands who had never entered them before; all these are distinguishing characteristics of this religious movement which should make the hearts of Christians to rejoice in Him with whom is the residue of the Spirit. And while we note these outward manifestations of the presence of the Lord, the promised Paraklete. we search, too, and not in vain, for the developed graces of the Church. The breathings of this south wind upon the garden of the Lord must cause the spices to exhale their delicious aroma. And have we not seen that unity of the

Spirit, so sweetly chanted by Israel's singer; the dwelling together of the brethren in unity, which is like precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard; that went down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew of Hermon, that descended upon the mountains of Zion? Have we not marked, too, the constraining influence of the love of Christ, which was manifested in the Macedonian churches, who out of their poverty contributed their substance on a scale which the Apostle could cite as a pattern to the wealthy Corinthian churches? The Church in this dark season of financial embarrassments has placed her shoulder more fully than ever beneath the burden of the great enterprise of the world's conversion.* We have reason to believe, too, that the Spirit of grace and supplication now rests upon the Church to an unwonted degree; that family prayer, social prayer, and, we may trust, secret prayer have been exercised by our churches to a degree unknown at any former period of their history. There is a growing attachment to the Bible, and a growing interest in its study.

All the institutions and ordinances of the Gospel, in fact, seem to have taken a new place in the affections of the people of God. Among them we notice particularly the stated ministrations of the sanctuary, even in those sections of the land where the Spirit of innovation and love of novelty had introduced a degree of contempt for the regular and judicious ministrations of trained and qualified preachers of the Word. There is, as we have remarked, an increased interest in the exercise of social prayer. Some few Presbyteries report, indeed, the painful neglect of the stated monthly season of prayer for the missionary cause; but in general this noble institution is taking firmer hold of the hearts of our churches; and the greater part of those with us adhere to the good old way of uniformity in mingling their prayers with those of Christendom on the first Monday of the month. Next we notice with thrilling delight the increased attention to the religious instruction of the young. Sunday-schools and Bible-classes are now looked upon by our pastors and churches as among the richest gifts of the Head of the Church. They have been signally owned in this season of mercy as the channels of salvation to hundreds in the early dawning of their immortal existence. The four theological schools at New York, Auburn, Cincinnati and Hudson, in connection with our churches, are in an improving state, notwithstanding their yet unendowed condition amid our pecuniary embarrassments. Yet there is great reason to apprehend that the Church too much undervalues these indispensable instruments of the world's conversion.

In closing this narrative, the General Assembly would present particularly to the consideration of the churches several topics which the narratives from the several Presbyteries suggested:

1. The Head of the Church seems to be calling his people to exercise an increasing confidence in the stated ministrations of the sanctuary. Let there be a more full conviction that the ministry is ordained of God for the conversion of souls and the edification of the Church. Let ministers whose hearts have fainted, and whose hands have hung down in despondency, be encouraged. Let them go to the place of sacred instruction with a fuller confidence in the faithfulness of Christ. Let the churches place less expectation in the man, and more in the Spirit of God. Let the Sabbath be looked to as the day to signalize the glories of the Lord of the Sabbath.

* Many of the largest donations to our Societies have been cut off by pecuniary difficulties; but the steady operation of principle in the body of the Church having taken the place of fitful impulse, has actually kept full the treasuries of many of these institutions.

2. We exhort the churches to aim at stability and steadiness, and to dread the evil of a floating, unattached, irresponsible ministry.

3. We urge the raising of the standard of benevolent action. The wealthy must act more as the stewards of the Lord's treasury. The poor and those in more comfortable circumstances must estimate more highly the importance of the little rills, which, by combining steadily their feeble quota, make up the mass of waters in the mighty rivers.

4. We ask for a reviving of the declining interest in our Western settlements. The old arguments of the vast prospects of that region, are a little dimmed to the eye of sense by reason of temporary checks; but to the eye of reflection, they remain in the future,—vast, overwhelming as they were in the freshness of their novelty. We would secure the attention of our Eastern churches more definitely to the fields, where their brethren are toiling to lay the foundations perhaps of the most glorious spiritual empire the world has ever seen. The accounts from our young churches there have filled our hearts with gladness, and made us long to embrace in the arms of brotherly affection these our kindred in the Lord. We commend them and their institutions to the prayers and pecuniary aid of our older churches.

5. Finally, we recommend seasons of special private and social thanksgivings to God for the spiritual mercies of the ecclesiastical year we have just closed. It was begun in darkness and fear, in fastings, and tears, and supplications. It has closed in triumphs and joys, that have brought heaven and earth to mingle in holy sympathy. Should not such mercies, such answers to our prayers, lead to praises and thanksgivings as special and as fervent as were our humiliations and supplications? Gratitude is an element greatly wanting in the piety of our day. "Let your requests be made known in all things with prayer and *thanksgivings* in the name of Christ."

SUMMARY.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Churches.	Added on Examination.	Added on Certificate.	Total Communicants.	STATED CLERKS.
1. Londonderry	25	12	45	...	1902	
2. Newburyport	17	...	18	34	367	
3. Champlain	25	19	313	...	1807	C. M. Seaton.
4. Troy	23	28	268	85	2735	N. S. S. Beman, D. D.
5. Albany	7	6	60	...	1073	E. D. Allen.
6. Columbia	29	22				
7. St. Lawrence	6	6	36	22	604	Beriah B. Hotchkin.
8. Watertown	13	23	212	113	2248	Marcus Smith.
9. Oswego	13	23	39	73	1040	Robert W. Condit.
10. Oneida	34	34	77	100	1993	Ira Pettibone.
11. Otsego	13	17	47	33	1655	A. E. Campbell.
12. Geneva	35	32	81	127	3561	Thomas Lounsbury.
13. Chenango	15	19	19	29	496	
14. Onondaga	15	22	53	...	2249	A. C. Tuttle.
15. Cayuga	32	24	...	...	2271	Seth Smith.
16. Tioga	12	15	58	23	925	Zenas Riggs.
17. Cortland	11	15	29	40	1875	Peter Lockwood.
18. Bath	12	19	15	49	853	B. Foster Pratt.
19. Delaware	8	19	17	14	1228	Fordyce Harrington.
20. Chemung	14	24	28	38	760	John Smith.
21. Ithaca	12	12	204	68	1898	Samuel Parker.
22. Genessee	27	24	58	83	1679	Selden Haynes.
23. Ontario	22	24	40	50	1087	John Barnard, Jun.
24. Rochester	29	25	233	249	2850	
25. Niagara	17	15	166	63	1184	Richard Dunning.
26. Buffalo	36	37	50	193	2221	Timothy Stillman.
27. Angelica	14	21	218	47	1500	A. S. Allen.
28. Hudson	14	14	...	...	1708	O. M. Johnson.
29. North River	20	22	63	34	839	Sumner Mandeville.
30. New York, 2d	7	4	79	36	792	Henry A. Rowland.
31. New York, 3d	33	22	516	325	5929	Edwin F. Hatfield.
32. Long Island	7	6	5	3	456	Abm. Luce, Jun.
33. Brooklyn	13	5	118	99	1115	William B. Lewis.
34. Newark	21	14	21	65	2875	Ebenezer Seymour.
35. Montrose	18	25	80	28	1062	Sylvester Cooke.
36. Rockaway	16	20	20	17	704	Joel Campbell.
37. Wilmington	10	12	12	20	1016	E. W. Gilbert.
38. Lewes	5	12	18	4	543	C. H. Mustard.
39. Philadelphia, 3d	34	33	857	246	6008	Robert Adair.
40. Harrisburg	8	6	60	10	722	William T. Sprole.
41. Pittsburgh	7					
42. Erie	11	24	43	45	1418	Pierce Chamberlain.
43. Grand River	27	35	110	98	1964	John W. Beecher.
44. Portage	28	22	48	84	1820	William Hanford.
45. Huron	32	36	145	132	2025	Xenophon Betts.
46. Maumee	6	7	40	26	243	Isaac Van Tassell.
47. Trumbull	12	18	3	17	1227	Benjamin Fenn.
48. Cleveland	15	12	256	72	1110	Joseph H. Breck.
49. Medina	10	14	80	19	681	Lewis F. Laine.
50. Detroit	18	32	152	106	1628	A. S. Wells.
51. Monroe	8	15	47	74	566	E. N. Nichols.
52. St. Joseph	10	16	55	46	435	P. W. Warriner.
53. Marshall	13	19	129	92	783	Elias Child.
54. Washtenaw	8	16	92	122	1009	Ira M. Wead.
55. Kalamazoo	4	5	...	9	335	Calvin Clarke.
56. Athens	14	18	36	41	502	William H. Bay.
57. Lancaster	14	18	74	127	1344	Francis Bartlett.
58. Marion	9	22	171	40	1072	Henry Van Deman.
59. Cincinnati	12	14	225	61	900	A. Benton.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Churches.	Added on Examination.	Added on Certificate.	Total Communicants.	STATED CLERKS.
60. Dayton	3	12	210	25	790	Benjamin Graves.
61. Ripley	10	11	114	55	854	Jesse H. Lockhart.
62. Salem	7	15	92	38	527	Solomon Kittredge.
63. Madison	7	9	44	31	1385	James H. Johnston.
64. Crawfordsville	13	14	61	25	636	S. G. Lowry.
65. Indianapolis	5	11	37	28	404	Henry W. Beecher.
66. Logansport	5	8				
67. Illinois	7	10	28	10	316	Hugh Barr.
68. Sangamon	8	8	28	23	302	Lemuel Foster.
69. Ottawa	8	7	20	23	107	
70. Schuyler	10	10	41	11	408	Milton Kimball.
71. Palestine	4	4	3	28	73	Enoch Kingsbury.
72. Peoria	6	7	25	41	319	Lucien Farnam.
73. Alton	9	10	83	...	399	Charles G. Selleck.
74. Knox	7	5	84	72	318	J. Porter.
75. Missouri	7					
76. St. Louis	7	13	...	...	736	
77. St. Charles	13	20	...	...	823	
78. Winchester	7					
79. Dist. of Columbia	7	6	104	20	757	John Mines.
80. Hanover	8	8	...	...	292	Alexander Mebane.
81. Abingdon	7	14	...	...	574	Alexander M'Ewen.
82. Union	22	23	99	23	2020	Fielding Pope.
83. French Broad	8	16	...	...	1292	
84. Holston	10	13	139	4	1109	John W. Cunningham.
85. Kingston	11	11	58	58	472	
86. New River	5	7	4	...	337	George Painter.
87. Clinton	10	14	238	25	681	A. Newton.
88. Charleston Union	21	8	...	...	788	Benjamin Gildersleeve.
89. Arkansas	8	6	...	...	239	Joel Wood.
	1260	1375	7421	4180	102,060	

MINUTES, 1843.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian church in the city of Philadelphia, on the third Thursday of May, 1843, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. William Wisner, D. D., Moderator of the last Assembly, from Col. 4 : 17—"Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it."

After public worship the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions reported that the following persons present, had been duly appointed Commissioners to this General Assembly:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Londonderry.		
Newburyport.		
Champlain,	Ashbel Parmelee,	A. C. Moore.
Troy,	Amos B. Lambert,	*2 Marvin Freeman.
Albany,	Charles Wadsworth,	Timothy Fassitt.
Columbia.		
Delaware,	Shubaell G. Spees,	Wm. Wheeler.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

St. Lawrence.		
Watertown,		Reuben E. Bacon.
Oswego.		
Oneida,	Robert C. Brisbin,	Gilbert M. Gifford.
Otsego,	Wm. C. Boyce,	James M. Peake.
Utica,	Charles Jones,	Edward Vernon.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

Geneva,	Samuel H. Ridley,	Luther Redfield.
Chenango.		
Onondaga,	Joseph Myers,	Curtis J. Hurd.
Cayuga,	Baxter Dickinson, D. D.,	Salem Town.
Tioga,	David S. Morse,	Dene Relyea.
Cortland,	Eleazer T. Ball.	
Bath,	Robert E. Wilson.	
Chemung,	Philemon H. Fowler,	Wm. T. Jackson.
Ithaca,	William Wisner, D. D.,	Joseph Esty. [4]

*The figures refer to the day of the sessions upon which the members took their seats.

IV. SYNOD OF GENESSEE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Genessee,	Ebenezer Mead.	
Ontario.		
Rochester.		
Niagara,	Wm. N. M'Harg,	2 Zelotes Shelden.
Buffalo,	Zechariah Eddy,	Samuel Allen.
Angelica.		

V. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

Hudson,	Wm. Y. Miller,	Calvin G. Sawyer.
North River,	Sumner Mandeville.	
New York, 2d,	Henry A. Rowland,	Elijah Houghton.
New York, 3d,	Mason Noble,	Marcus Wilbur.
Long Island,	Ezra Young.	
Brooklyn,	Wm. B. Lewis,	Abijah Fisher.
Newark,	Ansel D. Eddy,	Abraham Harrison.
Montrose,	Adam Miller,	R. L. Seely.
Rockaway,	Wm. Torrey,	Ebenezer Fairchild.

VI. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Wilmington,	James C. How,	John C. Clark.
Lewes,	James J. Graff.	John Fassitt.
Philadelphia, 3d.	George Chandler,	George W. Forbes.
Harrisburg,	B. J. Wallace,	Wm. D. Slayneaker.

VII. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.*

Pittsburgh,	D. H. Riddel, D. D.	
Erie,	Richard Craighead.	
Meadville,	James F. Read.	

VIII. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

Grand River.		
Portage,	Wm. C. Clark.	
Huron,		Eli Kitts.
Maumee.		
Trumbull,	3 Rev. N. B. Purinton.	
Cleveland,	Daniel C. Blood,	Stephen Whittaker.
Medina,	Lewis F. Laine.	
Elyria,	David A. Grosvenor.	

IX. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

Detroit,	George Duffield, D. D.	
Monroe,	Nathaniel West.	
St. Joseph,	Norman Kellogg.	
Marshall,	2 Erasmus J. Boyd.	
Washtenaw.		
Kalamazoo.		

[5]

* Erected during the present sessions of the Assembly.

X. SYNOD OF OHIO.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Athens,	J. H. Lindsley, D. D.	
Lancaster,	Edward Garland,	James Young.
Marion.		

XI. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

Cincinnati,	Andrew Benton,	Andrew L. Bushnell.
Dayton,	John W. Hall,	Peter Odlin.
Ripley.		

XII. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

Salem,	Alex. M'Pherson.	
Madison,	Henry Little,	George Briggs.
Crawfordsville,	Caleb Mills,	3 James M. Grooms.
Indianapolis,	Wm. N. Stimpson.	
Logansport,	2 Asa Johnson,	3 Gardner Mudge.

XIII. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

Illinois,	Edward Beecher, D. D.	
Sangamon,	3 Albert Hale.	
Desmoines,	3 James A. Clarke.	
Schuyler,	Wm. Fithian.	
Alton,	Lemuel Foster,	A. L. Sanders.
Palestine,	2 Enoch Kingsbury.	

XIV. SYNOD OF PEORIA.*

Peoria,	Romulus Barnes.	
Ottawa,	Chauncey Cook,	4 Wm. H. Brown.
Knox,	Hiram H. Kellogg.	
Galena,	Aratus Kent.	

XV. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

Missouri.		
St. Louis,	8 Artemas Bullard, D. D.	
St. Charles,	Ezra Stiles Ely, D. D.	

XVI. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

Winchester,	William Hill, D. D.	
Dist. of Columbia,	Joshua N. Danforth,	Jacob Gideon.
Hanover,	A. J. Leavenworth,	John R. D. Payne.

XVII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

Union.		
Holston,	Philips Wood,	Samuel Rhea.
Kingston.		
New River,	Stephen Taylor.	
Clinton.		

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XVIII. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

Harmony,	8 Joseph C. Stiles,	8 Alex. Hamilton.
Providence,	8 Thomas Clelan, D. D.	

* Erected during the present sessions of the Assembly.

XIX. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
W. Tennessee,	Conway P. Wing.	
Shiloh.		
N. Alabama,	John Allen, D. D.	

General Association of Connecticut,	Rev. Joseph Eldridge.
General Association of Massachusetts,	Rev. John Fiske.
General Conference of Maine,	Rev. Ray Palmer.
Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island,	Rev. Constantine Blodgett.
General Convention of Vermont,	Rev. H. F. Leavitt.
General Association of New Hampshire.	

The Committee further reported, that William T. Jackson, a Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Chemung, had appeared without a Commission.

Messrs. Noble, Brisbin, and Redfield were appointed a *Committee of Elections,* and the case of Mr. Jackson was referred to them.

Nominations were made for Moderator. The Roll was called, and the Rev. Ansel Eddy, of the Presbytery of Newark, was elected and duly inducted into office.

Adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners appeared and took their seats: viz. Rev. A. J. Leavenworth, of the Presbytery of Hanover, and Mr. John Fassitt, Ruling Elder of the Presbytery of Lewes.

The Rev. William B. Lewis was chosen Temporary Clerk.

The Stated Clerk presented a Docket of Business.

The printed Minutes of the last General Assembly were distributed among the members.

The Committee on Elections reported, that there was satisfactory evidence that Mr. William T. Jackson had been duly elected a Commissioner to this Assembly, and recommended that he be admitted to a seat. The report was adopted.

Dr. Wisner, Dr. Lindsley, Mr. Myers, Dr. Riddle, and Messrs. Rowland, J. C. Clark, and Bushnell were appointed a *Committee of Bills and Overtures.*

Messrs. Wilbur, Ray, and Whittaker were appointed a *Committee of Mileage.* [7]

Messrs. Danforth, Benton, Mandeville, Chandler, and Fiske (of Mass.) were appointed a *Committee on the Narrative.* Messrs. Leavenworth, J. W. Hall, West, Harrison, and Houghton, were appointed a *Committee on Leave of Absence.*

Dr. Ely, Mr. Gridley and Mr. Fisher were appointed a *Committee on Devotional Exercises.*

These Committees were directed to meet on the rising of the Judicatory, and afterwards on their adjournment.

The Stated Clerk reported, that a Delegate was present from the "General Association of New York," requesting correspondence with this body.

On motion, the subject was referred to Dr. Beecher, Dr. Riddle and Mr. Vernon.

The subject of Correspondence with the "Evangelical Lutheran Church" was, on motion, referred to the same Committee.

Dr. Cox, chairman of the Committee *ad interim*, presented, by leave of the Assembly, the report of that Committee. The minutes of their proceedings were read. Inquiries were made and answered. After which the report was referred to a select Committee, consisting of Messrs. Myers, Ely and Rhea.

The following Committees were appointed to examine the Records of the several Synods: viz. on the Records of the Synod of

Albany, ... Dr. Hill, and Messrs. Kent and Gideon.
Utica, ... Messrs. Parmelee, Morse and Odlin.
Geneva, ... Messrs. M'Pherson, Garland and James Young.
Genessee, ... Messrs. Cook, Howe and Fowler.
N. York and N. Jersey, . . Messrs. Gridley, Wing and Kitts.
Pennsylvania, ... Messrs. Blood, Z. Eddy and Fairchild.
Western Reserve, ... Messrs. A. Miller, Graff and S. Allen.
Michigan, ... Messrs. Fithian, Ball and W. T. Jackson.
Ohio, ... Messrs. Taylor, Fowler and Gifford.
Cincinnati, ... Messrs. Morse, Jones and T. Fassitt.
Indiana, ... Messrs. Spees, Boyce and Esty.
Illinois, ... Messrs. Wilson, Mead and Relyea.
Missouri, ... Messrs. Dickinson, Hall and Gideon.
Virginia, ... Messrs. Torrey, M'Hay and Sawyer.
Tennessee, ... Messrs. H. H. Kellogg, Laine and Seeley.

Dr. Beecher, from the Committee to whom was referred the subject of Correspondence with the General Association of New York, made a report, which, after some discussion, was recommitted to the same Committee.

Mr. West, Dr. Dickinson, Dr. Duffield and Mr. Spees were added to the Committee.

The subject of Correspondence with the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and also with the "Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wiskonsin," was referred to the same Committee.

Resolved, That it be the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, to receive Statistical Reports from Presbyteries; and the order of the day for Monday next at 10 o'clock, to hear the Narratives on the State of Religion. [8]

The subject of the election of Trustees of the General Assembly was taken up for consideration; when it was *Resolved*, That it is inexpedient to make any election of Trustees the present year.

The subject of the election of Directors of the several Theological Seminaries was committed to Messrs. Rowland, Dr. Allen and Mr. Payne, to consider and report.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday Morning, May 19, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners appeared and took their seats: viz.

Marvin Freeman, Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Troy.
George Briggs, " " " " Madison.
Zelotes Sheldon, " " " " Niagara.
Rev. Enoch Kingsbury, " " " Palestine.

The subject of the Commissioners' Fund was referred to Dr. Ely, Mr. Parmelee and Mr. Fisher.

Statistical Reports from Presbyteries were called for, received, and committed to the Stated Clerk.

The Rev. Erasmus J. Boyd, of the Presbytery of Marshall, who had appeared without a Commission, was, on the recommendation of the Committee of Elections, admitted to a seat.

The Stated Clerk reported a letter from the Congregational Union of England and Wales addressed to this Assembly. *Ordered*, that it be read in connection with the Narratives on the State of Religion.

Dr. Dickinson, Dr. Duffield, and Messrs. Fowler, Fisher and Wilbur were appointed a *Committee on the Polity of the Church.*

A communication from the Presbytery of Desmoines, Iowa, requesting to be annexed to the Synod of Illinois, was made, and referred to that Committee.

Resolved, That the first Sabbath in January, in each year before the next Assembly, be observed as a day of special prayer for the salvation of the world.

The subject of Correspondence with Foreign Bodies was made the order of the day for 4 o'clock this P. M.

Reports were called for from those who had been Delegates to Foreign Bodies during the last three years.

Dr. Wisner, from the Committee of Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 19, in reference to daily devotional exercises, which was adopted, and is as follows:

Whereas the temper and spirit with which the General Assembly conduct their business is a matter of deep interest to the cause and Church of God; and believing that the influence of a season of prayer in immediate connection with the meetings of this body, would have a most happy influence on our own souls, and upon the harmony and [9] success of our deliberations; therefore *Resolved*, That this body will spend three-quarters of an hour, at the opening of their morning session, daily, in devotional services, conducted under the direction of the Moderator.

They reported also Overture No. 8, from the Presbytery of Rockaway, on the subject of a Uniform system of benevolent action; which was put upon the docket.

Also Nos. 9 and 15, which were referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

At the recommendation of the same Committee, it was *Resolved*, That the Assembly will hear Dr. Edwards on the subject of the observance of the Sabbath, this afternoon at 5 o'clock.

A communication was received from Mr. Bokum, in reference to the conversion of the Jews; which was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The Report of the Stated Clerk was called for, and the hearing of it was made the order of the day for to-morrow, 12 o'clock M.

Overture No. 8 was taken up for consideration, and after some discussion, was referred to a select Committee, consisting of Messrs. Gridley, Little and Briggs.

At 11 o'clock, with a view to give committees time to meet and prepare business, the Assembly adjourned to 3 o'clock this P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, P. M., May 19, 3 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Rev. Asa Johnson, from the Presbytery of Logansport, appeared and took his seat.

Printed copies of the Minutes of the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island were presented and distributed among the members.

Dr. Wisner, from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 27, on the "Division of the Synod of Pennsylvania;" which was referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Also No. 21, from the Presbytery of Utica, on the subject of a "Change of the Constitution so as to restore annual Assemblies."

In reference to which it was *Resolved*, That no action of this Assembly is required on the subject, as the present organization is desirable, and ought to be continued.

Also No. 23, in reference to the "Jews," which was put upon the docket.

Also No. 26, on the subject of the "Committee *ad interim*," which was referred to the Committee already appointed on the proceedings of the Committee *ad interim*.

Also No. 20, from the 3d Presbytery of New York, on the subject of "Dancing."

A motion was made to refer the subject to a select Committee. [10] After some discussion, the farther consideration of the subject was for the present postponed, to take up the order of the day.

Agreeably to previous appointment, nominations were made of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies; after which, the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

The Rev. Dr. J. Edwards was then heard at some length, on the subject of the Observance of the Sabbath.

After which the Assembly adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday Morning, May 20, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes were read and approved.

The Rev. Albert Hale, of the Presbytery of Sangamon; Gardner Mudge, Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Logansport; and James M. Grooms, Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Crawfordsville, appeared and took their seats.

Agreeably to previous order, three-quarters of an hour were spent in devotional exercises.

Mr. Rowland, from the Committee to whom was referred the subject of the election of Directors of the several Theological Seminaries, made the following report, which was adopted:

Resolved, That without intending to relinquish any legal claim, as the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, to the direction of the Theological Seminaries, it is inexpedient at present to proceed to this election.

Overture No. 20 was taken up and referred to Messrs. Duffield, Mills and Fairchild.

The Delegates of the last year to the General Association of Connecticut, and the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, reported that they had attended and were cordially received.

The question of sending Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, for the two

years next succeeding the present year, was referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The Rev. N. B. Purinton, from the Presbytery of Trumbull, whose Commission wanted the regular signatures, was, on the recommendation of the Committee of Elections, admitted to a seat.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz. the election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

Messrs. Myers and H. H. Kellogg were appointed a Committee to receive and count the votes for Delegates to Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Messrs. Noble and Rowland, ... New Hampshire.
Messrs. Wing and Clark, ... Vermont.

The following persons were duly elected:

To the *General Association of Connecticut*, Rev. Edward Beecher, D. D., Rev. Ansel D. Eddy and Rev. Aratus Kent. [11]

General Association of Massachusetts, Rev. Edward Beecher, D. D., and Rev. A. D. Eddy.

Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, Rev. Aratus Kent.

General Association of New Hampshire, Rev. Albert Barnes and Rev. A. T. Hopkins.

General Convention of Vermont, Rev. Joseph Myers and Rev. Henry Little.

General Conference of Maine, Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D.

The Assembly proceeded to determine the place of its next meeting. Several places were put in nomination. The Roll was called, and it was decided that the next meeting be held in the First Presbyterian church in the City of Philadelphia.

A communication was received in reference to the Union Theological Seminary of New York, which was read and referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

Dr. Dickinson, from the Committee on Church Polity, reported on the subject of the division of the Synods of Illinois and of Pennsylvania; and on their recommendation, it was

Resolved, "That a new Synod be erected within the bounds of the Synod of Illinois, embracing the Ministers and Churches connected with the Presbyteries of Ottawa, Peoria, Knox and Galena, to be known by the name of the 'Synod of Peoria.' That the first meeting of the new Synod be held at Galena, on the second Thursday of October, 1843, at 6 o'clock P. M., to be opened with a sermon by the Rev. George W. Gale, or in his absence, by the oldest minister present, who shall preside till another Moderator shall be chosen.

Resolved, also, That a new Synod be erected within the bounds of the Synod of Pennsylvania, embracing the Ministers and Churches connected with the Presbyteries of Erie, Meadville and Pittsburg; to be known by the name of the 'Synod of West Pennsylvania.' That the first meeting of the new Synod be held at Meadville, Crawford County, on the third Tuesday of October, 1843, at 6 o'clock P. M.; to be opened with a sermon by the Rev. D. H. Riddle, D. D.; or in his absence, by the oldest Minister present, who shall preside till another Moderator shall be chosen."

On the recommendation of the same Committee, the request of the Presbytery of Desmoines, to be annexed to the Synod of Illinois, was granted. They were thus annexed; and their Commissioner, the Rev. James A. Clarke, was admitted to a seat accordingly.

An invitation from the Principal of the "Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind" to visit the institution, was presented, and accepted for 4 o'clock this afternoon.

A communication was received from the American Sabbath-School Union, which was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

Dr. Beecher, from the Committee to whom was referred the subject of Correspondence with the "General Association of New York," reported, recommending that the whole subject be referred to a *Committee of five*, to report to the next General Assembly.

The report was adopted; and Dr. Wisner, Dr. Dickinson, Dr. Duffield, Dr. Riddle, and Rev. S. G. Spees were appointed that Committee. [12]

Dr. Ely, from the Committee on Devotional Exercises, reported; and on their recommendation, it was

Resolved, That on Wednesday next, at 11 o'clock A. M., a discourse shall be delivered in the First Presbyterian church, before the Assembly, preparatory to the celebration of the Lord's Supper, by the Rev. Dr. Hill, aided in the preparatory services by such brother as he may desire.

That at half-past 3 o'clock P. M. of the same day, the Assembly will meet in the same place, to unite in celebrating the Lord's Supper with such fellow-Christians, in good and regular standing in sister churches, as may choose to unite with them in this holy ordinance: And that in this service,

1. Mr. Palmer, of Maine, offer Prayer and read 1 Cor. 11 : 17–34.
2. Moderator give out some sacred Song.
3. Prayer by Rev. Mr. Fiske, of Massachusetts.
4. Psalm or Hymn, by Dr. Allen.
5. Administration of the Bread, by Dr. Cleland.
6. Administration of the Cup, by Mr. Myers.
7. Short Address to Communicants, by Dr. Linsley.
8. Address to non-Communicants, by Mr. Stiles, of Kentucky.
9. Hymn and Benediction, by the Moderator.

At 12 o'clock, the Assembly, agreeably to previous appointment, held a meeting with closed doors, and proceeded to hear the report of the Stated Clerk.

The report made by him on the subject of Finances was referred to Messrs. Seeley, Haymaker and Mudge, as an Auditing Committee.

The report of the Stated Clerk on the subject of correspondence with the counsel engaged in the law-suit, and on other subjects, was approved.

The reports of Committees appointed to examine Synodical Records were made the order of the day for Tuesday morning next, at ten o'clock.

Adjourned to Monday morning next, at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday Morning, May 22, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes were read and approved.

Mr. William H. Brown, a Ruling Elder, from the Presbytery of Ottawa, appeared and took his seat.

The usual time was then spent in devotional exercises.

At 10 o'clock the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz. hearing the Narrations on the State of Religion.

Before this business was finished, the Assembly adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, P. M., half-past 3 *o'clock, May* 22, 1843.

The Assembly met, pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer. [13]

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. The unfinished business of the morning was then resumed and finished.

The letter from the Congregational Union of England and Wales was read; and Dr. Riddle, Dr. Allan, and Mr. Wheeler were appointed a Committee to prepare a reply.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 28, in reference to the Observance of the Sabbath. On this subject the following resolutions were adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That as the Sabbath was made for man, and the observance of it is essential to the highest social, civil and religious interests of man, it is not only the duty, but the right and the privilege of all men to remember it and to keep it holy.

2. *Resolved*, That the loading and unloading of vessels, the sailing of vessels from the harbor, the running of stage-coaches, rail-cars, and canal-boats, and the travelling in them; the visiting of post-offices, reading-rooms, and other places for secular reading, business or amusement, are not only unnecessary, but are violations of the law of God, and ought to be abandoned throughout the community.

3. *Resolved*, That it is the duty of Christians when travelling, to stop on the Sabbath, and during the whole of the Sabbath.

4. *Resolved*, That all pastors be requested fully to instruct their people as to the duty and utility of observing the Sabbath; and to be especially careful always to add to their instruction the influence of a uniformly consistent example.

5. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to all families to supply themselves with some good Sabbath Manual, that the rising generation may all be taught the reasons for the universal and perpetual observance of the Sabbath; and teachers of Sabbath-schools also are requested to exhibit this subject with frequency and plainness to their pupils.

6. *Resolved*, That all persons who are acquainted with facts which illustrate the duty and utility of keeping the Sabbath, and the evils of violating it, are requested to cause them to be published and circulated as extensively as possible; that the voice of God in his providence as well as in his word with regard to this subject, may be heard by all the people.

7. *Resolved*, That such is the fundamental importance of the Sabbath to all the great interests of men; and such its influence upon all efforts for the intellectual elevation, the moral purity, the social happiness, and the eternal good of men, that its due observance ought to receive the earnest attention, the fervent prayers, and the hearty, active and persevering co-operation of all friends of God and man throughout the world.

Also No. 29, from the Presbytery of Brooklyn, in reference to the "Second Centenary Anniversary of the Westminster Assembly;" which was put upon the docket.

Also No. 30, application of Dr. Peters, Professor in the Union Theological Seminary of New York, to be heard in behalf of that institution. *Resolved*, that the Assembly will hear Dr. Peters on that subject for fifteen minutes this P. M.

Also No. 31, "Overture on Slavery,"—report of a majority of the [14] Committee. Placed on the docket, and made the order of the day for half-past 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Rev. Mr. Fiske, the Delegate from Massachusetts, after a short address, respectfully took his leave.

Dr. Duffield, from the Committee to whom was referred Overture No. 20,

viz. the memorial from the Third Presbytery of New York, relative to "Dancing," presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

"*Resolved*, that the fashionable amusement of promiscuous dancing is so entirely unscriptural, and eminently and exclusively that of 'the world which lieth in wickedness;' and so wholly inconsistent with the spirit of Christ, and with that propriety of Christian deportment and that purity of heart which his followers are bound to maintain, as to render it not only improper and injurious for professing Christians either to partake in it, or to qualify their children for it, by teaching them the art; but also to call for the faithful and judicious exercise of discipline on the part of church sessions, when any of the members of their churches have been guilty."

Dr. Peters was then heard in behalf of the Union Theological Seminary of New York. After which Dr. Linsley, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Redfield were appointed a Committee on the subject of the Theological Seminaries which sympathize with this body.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday Morning, May 23, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The calling of the Roll was dispensed with. The Minutes were read and approved.

Mr. A. L. Sanders, a Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Alton, appeared and took his seat.

The usual time was spent in devotional exercises.

At 10 o'clock, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz. receiving reports on Synodical Records.

On the recommendation of the respective Committees, the Records of the Synods of Geneva, Genessee, New York, and New Jersey, were approved so far as written.

In reference to the Records of the Synod of Cincinnati, it was moved that the Records be approved so far as written, with the exception of the resolutions and proceedings on the subject of Slavery; in regard to which resolutions and proceedings the Assembly express no opinion.

Pending the discussion, it was moved and carried that the further consideration of this subject should be for the present postponed, with a view to take up the order of the day, viz. Overture No. 31, on the subject of "Slavery," which was taken up.

On motion of Dr. Dickinson, it was *Resolved*, that any member of this house who has charge of a memorial or remonstrance on the subject of Slavery, be allowed to call for the reading of the same. [15]

The memorials of the Presbyteries of Cincinnati, Lewes, Onondaga and Erie, and from the Elders of the churches in Philadelphia, and also from the church of Fly and Oaks Creek, were read.

Mr. Rowland moved that the preamble and resolutions of the Committee of Overtures be adopted.

Mr. H. H. Kellogg moved that the consideration of the overtures be postponed, to take up the following as a substitute. The motion to postpone was carried.

"*Whereas* the subject of Slavery has engaged the attention of our churches to a considerable extent for years past; and although the General Assembly of 1818 unanimously declared, 'We consider the voluntary enslaving of one part of the human race by another a gross violation of the most precious and sacred rights of human nature, as utterly inconsistent with the law of

God, which requires us to love our neighbor as ourselves;' and as totally irreconcilable with the spirit and precepts of the Gospel of Christ, which enjoins that all things 'whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them;' yet inasmuch as different and discordant views have since been expressed in relation to this institution as it exists in our country, and to some extent within our own communion, it becomes proper and important to the purity, peace and prosperity of our Church, that the views of this Assembly should be kindly and distinctly expressed."

Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we regard the enslaving and holding in slavery human beings, as practised in our country, a sin against God, a violation of the rights of man, and an invasion of the Divine prerogatives.

Resolved, 2. That we affectionately and earnestly urge upon the ministers, sessions, Presbyteries, and Synods connected with this Assembly, that they treat this as all other sins of great magnitude; and by a diligent, kind and faithful application of the means which God has given them, by instruction, remonstrance, reproof and effective discipline, seek to purify the Church of this great iniquity.

After due discussion, Mr. Gideon moved the postponement of Mr. Kellogg's resolutions, with a view to a substitute proposing an indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

Mr. Gideon's motion was lost.

The discussion of Mr. Kellogg's resolutions was then postponed till P. M.

Dr. Ely, from the Committee on the Commissioners' Fund, made the following report, which was adopted:

Resolved, 1. That the regulations of the Assembly passed in 1838, be and the same are hereby repealed.

2. That hereafter any Presbytery, which had formerly obtained leave to pay the expenses of their own Commissioners to the Assembly, shall have liberty to pursue the same course if they shall desire it.

3. Nevertheless, the Assembly would earnestly desire and recommend that all the churches and Presbyteries under care of this Assembly, should make common cause in raising an adequate fund to defray the necessary expenses of all Commissioners whose circumstances may constrain them to apply for the same. This course of [16] conduct the Assembly deem most equitable, paternal and Christian; for thus the strong will help to bear the infirmities of the weak, and all the parts of the Church be best tempered together and edified.

4. That every Presbytery be and hereby is earnestly requested to cause a contribution for the Commissioners' Fund to be taken up in all their churches in the winter preceding each future General Assembly, and transmit the whole amount of the same to the Assembly by their own or some neighboring Commissioner.

5. That such Commissioners to this or any future General Assembly, whose Presbytery has not preferred to defray his expenses by the application of their own funds, and who has returned his mileage, or at any time within four days from and after the opening of any future Assembly, returns to the Mileage Committee the number of miles which he has necessarily travelled from home in going to the Assembly, shall be entitled to receive his share of the Commissioners' Fund, provided the Presbytery from which he comes shall have made any reasonable contribution to the said fund out of which his mileage is to be drawn; of which the Mileage Committee, subject to an appeal to the Assembly, shall be competent to judge.

6. That all funds sent up to the Assembly for this purpose, shall be, at every General Assembly, committed to the Mileage Committee, to be divided between the lawful applicants for the same, in proportion to the number of miles which they have necessarily travelled.

7. That should the Commissioners' Fund in any one year be sufficient to allow each applicant Commissioner for allowance of mileage more than five cents for each mile travelled in coming to the Assembly, then the surplus at each Assembly, after paying five cents a mile to the applicants, shall be reserved and paid to the Treasurer for the time being, for the purpose of being divided at the next Assembly, if needful.

Dr. Dickinson, from the Committee on the Polity of the Church, made a report in reference to a petition of the Presbytery of Athens; and on their recommendation, it was

Resolved, That the boundary line between the Synods of Cincinnati and Ohio be so altered as to transfer to the Synod of Ohio the territory lying in those parts of Ross, Pike and Scioto Counties, which are west of the Scioto River; and also that part of Adams County which is east of Brush Creek.

The Moderator announced an invitation from the Americal Philosophical Society to attend their hundredth anniversary on Thursday next.

Adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, P. M., half-past 3 *o'clock, May* 23.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer by Dr. Dickinson.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Utica reported, and their report was put upon the docket. [17]

The Resolutions of Mr. Kellogg on the subject of Slavery were taken up, and discussed till near the close of the afternoon, when the discussion was interrupted for the present.

On motion of Dr. Dickinson, the time of commencing the religious service of to-morrow morning was reconsidered, and the hour was altered from 11 to 10 o'clock; the sermon to be followed immediately by the communion service.

The Moderator announced an invitation from the Young Men's Bible Society to attend their anniversary this evening.

Mr. Blodgett, the Delegate from Rhode Island, respectfully took his leave.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday Morning, May 24, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

In view of the special religious services of the day, in the church, the usual morning devotional exercises were dispensed with.

The Records of the Synod of Illinois were, on the recommendation of the Committee, approved, with the exception of a censure, on p. 209, of the action of Knox Presbytery, for ordaining a man when there was no call from any part of the Church.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Pennsylvania made a report, which was accepted, and committed to Dr. Ely, Mr. Taylor, and Dr. Wisner.

The Records of the Synod of Virginia were approved.

At 10 o'clock the Assembly removed to the body of the church, to attend to the sermon and communion service previously appointed.

After which the Assembly adjourned to half-past three o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, P. M., half-past 3 o'clock, May. 24.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz. the consideration of Mr. Kellogg's resolutions, was resumed.

Dr. Hill moved a postponement of Mr. Kellogg's resolutions, with a view to take up the following substitute:

"*Whereas* divers memorials and remonstrances have been presented to this Assembly, some asking for action, and others deprecating all action of this body on the subject of Slavery;

"Therefore, *Resolved*, That as the two last Assemblies have committed this business exclusively to the lower Judicatories of the Church, [18] to whom it properly belongs, and who alone are competent to judge and act with a full knowledge of this intricate and delicate subject; therefore, the Assembly determine to leave this matter as it exists at present, without taking any action in the premises."

The motion of Dr. Hill was carried, and the resolution was discussed until the hour of adjournment.

The Moderator announced an invitation to attend the anniversary of the Philadelphia Home Missionary Society, Auxiliary to the American Home Missionary Society, and also a meeting of the Colonization Society.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday Morning, May 25, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The usual time was spent in religious exercises.

Mr. Wilbur, from the Committee on Mileage, reported, that the sum of $361 10 cts. had been received, which they had apportioned agreeably to the resolutions lately adopted by the Assembly, to the several Commissioners entitled to the same; being a little more than one cent and a half per mile of reported travel.

The report was approved, and they were directed to divide any additional sums which may come into their hands by the same rule.

Mr. James Hurlbut, a Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Angelica, whose Commission wanted the signature of the Clerk, was, on the recommendation of the Committee of Elections, admitted to a seat.

Mr. Seely, from the Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Stated Clerk and Treasurer of this Assembly, reported that they had examined the said accounts, together with the accompanying vouchers, and had found the same correct as therein stated. The report was accepted and adopted.

The Records of the Synods of Indiana, and of the Western Reserve, were, on the recommendation of the Committee, approved.

Dr. Ely, from the Committee to whom was referred the report of the proceedings of the "Committee *ad interim*," made a report, which was accepted, and placed on the docket.

At the request of Dr. Cox, the Assembly agreed to hear a statement of

the result of conference with the counsel engaged in the late law-suit, just before the adjournment this morning.

The unfinished business, viz. the consideration of Dr. Hill's resolution on the subject of Slavery, was resumed.

Dr. Dickinson moved the postponement of Dr. Hill's resolution, for the purpose of taking up the following as a substitute:

"*Whereas* there is in this Assembly great diversity of opinion as to the proper and best mode of action on the subject of Slavery; and *whereas*, in such circumstances, any expression of sentiment would carry with it but little weight, as it would be passed by a small [19] majority, and must operate to produce alienation and division: and *whereas* the Assembly of 1839, with great unanimity, referred this whole subject to the lower judicatories, to take such order as in their judgment might be adapted to remove the evil,

"*Resolved*, That the Assembly do not think it for the edification of the Church, for this body to take any action on the subject."

The motion for postponement was carried; and the discussion of it was continued to the hour of adjournment without being completed.

The hearing of Dr. Cox, which had been made the order of the day, was postponed till the completion of the discussion on Slavery.

Adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, P. M., half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz. the consideration of Dr. Dickinson's resolution on Slavery, was resumed and continued till near the hour of adjournment.

On motion of Mr. Benton, the Ayes and Noes were demanded, and ordered to be recorded.

The Roll was called, and the following persons voted in the AFFIRMATIVE. Messrs. Lambert, Wadsworth, Timothy Fassitt, Specs, Wheeler, Brisbin, Dickinson, Town, Relyea, Fowler, Jackson, Wisner, Allen, Hurlbut, Wm. Y. Miller, Sawyer, Mandeville, Rowland, Houghton, Noble, E. Young, Lewis, Fisher, Harrison, Seely, Torrey, Fairchild, How, Graff, John Fassitt, Chandler, Forbes, Wallace, Slayneaker, Riddle, Blood, Whittaker, Grosvenor, Duffield, West, Norman, Kellogg, Linsley, Garland, James Young, Hall, Oldin, Little, Briggs, Mills, Grooms, Stimpson, Johnson, Beecher, Brown, James A. Clark, Ely, Hill, Danforth, Gideon, Leavenworth, Payne, Wing, Wood, Rhea, Taylor, Allan.—66.

The following persons voted in the NEGATIVE. Messrs. Parmelee, Moore, Bacon, Gifford, Boyce, Peake, Jones, Vernon, Gridley, Redfield, Myers, Morse, Ball, Wilson, Esty, Mead, M'Harg, Z. Eddy, Adam Miller, Craighead, Read, Wm. C. Clark, Laine, Benton, Bushnell, M'Pherson, Mudge, Cook, Fithian, Barnes, Foster, Saunders, Kent.—33. The resolution therefore was passed.

The Moderator then called on the Rev. Dr. Lindsley to lead the Assembly in rendering thanks to Almighty God, for the peaceful and harmonious spirit which had pervaded the Assembly during this whole discussion.

The hearing of Dr. Cox was made the order of the day for 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer. [20]

Friday Morning, May 26, 9 *o'clock.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Rev. Thomas Cleland, D. D., from the Presbytery of Providence; the Rev. Joseph C. Stiles, of the Presbytery of Harmony; the Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., of the Presbytery of St. Louis, appeared and took their seats.

On the report of the Committee of Elections, Mr. Alexander Hamilton, Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Harmony, (Synod of Ky.) who had appeared without a Commission, on good and sufficient evidence was admitted to a seat.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented an Overture on "Church Music," which was put upon the docket.

Dr. Beecher, from the Committee on Correspondence with Foreign Bodies, made a report on the subject of Correspondence with the Evangelical Lutheran Church, recommending that a Delegate be appointed to attend their next meeting, and also to open a Correspondence with them.

The Report was accepted and adopted.

The Synod of Missouri, with the Presbyteries attached to it, viz. Harmony, Lexington and St. Louis, was received into connection with the Assembly.

The Synod of Kentucky, at the request of the Delegates from that region, was also received into connection with the Assembly.

The Presbytery of St. Charles was, on motion, attached to the Synod of Missouri; and it was recommended to said Synod so to arrange their Presbyteries as that the division between them may be by territorial lines, according to the common principle of our system of discipline.

Mr. Leavenworth, from the Committee on Leave of Absence, reported that leave of absence had been given to Mr. H. H. Kellogg on Wednesday morning; Messrs. Benton, Bushnell, Kitts, Wadsworth and Boyd yesterday morning; and Messrs. Wilbur, Blood, Moore, Vernon and Young this morning.

The Assembly then sat with closed doors to hear a communication from the Stated Clerk and from Dr. Cox, in reference to the pecuniary concerns of the Assembly.

A letter respecting a legacy of Mr. William Brown, of Greenville, Tennessee, was read and referred to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, with power to act in the premises.

Dr. Cox reported the result of a conference with the counsel engaged in the late law-suit; and this report was approved.

Presbyteries were called, and moneys were paid or pledged for the payment of the debt of the Assembly.

The report of the Committee on the proceedings of the Committee *ad interim*, was taken up for consideration.

On that part of the report which related to Psalmody, the following resolution, on the motion of Dr. Duffield, was adopted:

Whereas the General Assembly of 1840, for the purpose of bringing about a greater degree of uniformity in the Psalmody used in our [21] churches, appointed a Committee on this subject, and after much consultation and reports in part, committed "the whole subject, with the procuring and furnishing an edition of Psalms and Hymns for our general use, in a way involving no pecuniary responsibility to the Assembly," to the Consulting Committee, or Committee *ad interim.*

And *whereas* that Committee, agreeably to the powers entrusted to them, have, after much time and labor devoted to the subject, procured and fur-

nished such a book of Psalms and Hymns as they deem suited to general use in our Church; and *whereas*, so far as we are enabled to judge, the said book, entitled the "Church Psalmist," fully merits the recommendation the Committee have given it:

Therefore, that this General Assembly recommend the collection of Psalms and Hymns, entitled the "Church Psalmist," to the churches under our care, leaving them at the same time free to continue the books now in use, if they deem it most for edification.

Ordered, that the Stated Clerk pay to Dr. Beman $400, the amount of his claim, out of the first funds which may come into his hands, after discharging the debt due to the counsel engaged in the late law-suit.

Adjourned to half-past three o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, P. M., half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Messrs. Danforth, Noble and Morse were appointed a Committee to take into consideration the Minutes of the last General Assembly, particularly with reference to the deficiencies in the Statistical department, and to report thereon at this session of this Assembly.

The agent of the American Sunday-School Union, agreeably to previous appointment, addressed the Assembly.

The agent for the Society for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Jews was then heard for a short time.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz. the report on the proceedings of the Committee *ad interim*, was resumed.

Resolved, That this Assembly would commend the zeal and fidelity manifested by the Committee *ad interim*, in the novel circumstances in which, by the providence of God, they have been placed; and their proceedings are hereby approved.

This Assembly further declares, that the withdrawing the suit against Ashbel Green and others, in the nature of a *quo warranto*, and the ceasing for the present of this Assembly to prosecute its claims for property belonging to it in law and in equity, shall not be considered as any waiving or relinquishment of any of its legal and equitable rights in and to any property which did, now does, or hereafter may belong to the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

The Moderator announced an invitation from the American Pro[22]testant Association, and from the Foreign Evangelical Society, to attend their anniversaries.

Dr. Riddle reported an answer to the letter of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, which was adopted. Adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday Morning, May 27, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. The Committee on Leave of Absence, reported that leave of absence had been given to Dr. Duffield and Messrs. Brisbin, Fairchild, Redfield, Peake, Sawyer, Slayneaker and Fisher.

The usual time was spent in devotional exercises.

Mr. Gridley, from the Committee to whom was referred Overture No. 8,

on the subject of a Uniform system of benevolent action, made the following report, which was adopted:

"*Whereas* no particular method of collecting funds for charitable purposes can be suggested by this body, which will apply to all the churches under our care; and *whereas* the last General Assembly made all the general suggestions which, in the view of your Committee, the wants of the Church under our care demand: Therefore,

Resolved, That this body refer the Presbytery of Rockaway to the doings of the Assembly of 1840, on the subject of Charitable Collections, as containing all the instructions which this Assembly is prepared to give in relation to this matter."

Mr. Danforth, from the Committee appointed to prepare a Narrative on the State of Religion, made a report, which was adopted, and ordered to be published.

The Records of the Synod of Utica were, on the recommendation of the Committee, approved, with the exception that, on page 275, the Synod recognizes a reference to them as an appeal which should have been considered and acted on merely as a complaint against, and not as an appeal from, the decision of Presbytery concerning the settlement of a pastor.

On the recommendation of the Committee of Correspondence with Foreign Bodies, it was *Resolved*, That Delegates be appointed to attend the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, to the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and to the German Reformed Church.

Nominations were made of Delegates to more bodies; and the election was made the order of the day for this P. M.

The following minute was adopted in reference to the interest of this Assembly in the publication of the "Church Psalmist."

The proprietor and publisher of the "Church Psalmist," the Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., and Mark H. Newman, have proposed to this Assembly, that they will, in all future times, so long as the "Church Psalmist" shall continue to be approved by the General Assembly, pay to the Treasurer of this Assembly ten per cent. on all sales which [23] shall be made, to any minister, elder, or congregation within the bounds of this Assembly, provided at least fifty copies of the "Church Psalmist" shall be purchased at the same time.

The Assembly has accepted, and does hereby accept of this proposition; and directs its Stated Clerk and Treasurer, from time to time, to audit the accounts of the publisher, receive such sums as may be due to the Assembly, and pass the same to the credit of the Contingent Fund of this body.

Dr. Ely, from the Committee to whom was referred the subject of the admission of Corresponding Members to seats in our Ecclesiastical Judicatories, made the following report, which was adopted:

Resolved, That while this Assembly would not interfere authoritatively with the lower judicatories in the exercise of their prerogative, they would recommend that no ministers should be invited to sit as correspondents who do not belong to some body in correspondence with this Assembly.

The Moderator announced an invitation to attend the anniversary of the Pennsylvania Bible Society.

Adjourned to half-past three o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, P. M., half-past 3 o'clock, May 27.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Dr. Riddle, from the Committee of Overtures, reported an Overture from the Presbytery of Lewes, inquiring as to the right of children of baptized parents who are not communicants, to the rite of baptism: in answer to which the Presbytery was referred to the Digest, pages 327–330, as sufficiently definite.

On motion of Dr. Lindsley,

Resolved, That this Assembly are called upon to express their profound gratitude to God for the special manifestations of the presence and power of his Spirit in our churches during the past year, and that the spirit of paternal kindness and interchange of ministerial services have prevailed to so great an extent between the two portions of the Presbyterian Church during these blessed seasons; and we recommend to all our ministers and churches to cultivate brotherly love and Christian fellowship as the best means of commending the religion, and advancing the honor of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Also, *Resolved*, That this Assembly earnestly recommend to the churches under our care, the observance of the last Thursday of February, annually, as a day of fasting and prayer in behalf of the literary and theological institutions of our country.

On motion of Dr. Bullard, Dr. Erskine Mason, Judge Darling, and Charles Butler, Esq., were appointed a *Committee* to consider and report to the next General Assembly, what, in their opinion, it is best for that Assembly to do *in relation to the election of Trustees of the Assembly.* [24]

The report on the Records of the Synod of Cincinnati was taken up, and it was *Resolved*, That the Records be approved, with the exception of certain resolutions on the subject of Slavery, concerning which resolutions and proceedings the Assembly express no opinion.

On the subject of "Church Music," the following resolution was adopted:

"*Whereas* sacred music forms a pleasant and profitable part of the worship of God; and *whereas* there is reason to believe that this subject does not hold that prominent place in the public mind which its importance demands;

"Therefore, *Resolved*, That the General Assembly recommend to the churches in their connection to devote more attention to the subject, and especially that the rising generation be instructed in this science; and to this end the Assembly advise the ministers in their connection to bring the subject before their congregations, and urge its importance upon their consideration."

Resolved, As the General Assembly holds its meetings triennially, and can receive delegates from Corresponding Bodies only once in three years, it is expedient to send delegates to such bodies only triennially.

Ordered, That the salaries of the Stated and Permanent Clerks be paid out of any moneys in the Contingent Fund.

The janitor's bill was presented and allowed, and ordered to be paid.

The Assembly proceeded to elect Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

To the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, the Rev. R. W. Patterson, of Chicago.

To the Evangelical Synod of the Lutheran Church, the Rev. B. J. Wallace.

To the German Reformed Church, the Rev. D. H. Riddle, D. D.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Danforth, it was *Resolved*, that it be enjoined on all the Presbyteries under the care of the General Assembly, to send up written reports of the State and Progress of Religion within their bounds for the three current years, together with statistical reports; and that the following Presbyteries be reminded that the Assembly has no triennial

reports from them, either verbal or written: Londonderry, Columbia, Oswego, Ontario, Rochester, Athens, Kalamazoo and Arkansas.

In reference to the Second Centennial Anniversary of the Westminster Assembly, the following minute was adopted.

Whereas the meeting and the acts of the Westminster Assembly, now 200 years ago, are honorably associated in the history of theology and of the Protestant cause, with eternal principles of truth that are dear to every genuine Christian, to every friend of God and the progress of human society; to every lover of the Church and the Reformation—especially to the Puritans of illustrious memory, and to the pilgrims from whom many of us lineally, and all of us morally are descended, therefore *Resolved*, That we approve with others the measure proposed by many ecclesiastical bodies throughout the Protestant world, and respectfully recommend to our whole Church, that the first day of July next, or the first Sabbath, that is the second day of the month, being the second centenary anniversary of the first meeting of the Westminster [25] Assembly, be solemnly celebrated by them, with gratitude to God for his mercies, with a suitable review of events historically connected with it, and with ardent prayers that the spirit of true religion may be diffused through all countries, and perpetuated through all ages to the end of time; and that Presbyteries and Sessions in our Church be instructed to take order accordingly.

The records of the Synod of Missouri were approved.

Ordered, That the Minutes of the Assembly be printed, and a copy forwarded to each minister of our Church.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to the Trustees of the First Presbyterian church, and to the inhabitants of this city, for their kindness and hospitality during these sessions.

Rev. Messrs. Lewis, Mason and Gilbert were appointed a *Committee to review the Minutes* and publish such items as they may think important and interesting, in the *New York Evangelist*, the *New York Observer*, the *Christian Observer*, and such other papers as they may deem proper.

The Records of the Synods of Albany, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee not being in the house, the Committees were discharged.

Ordered, That the Synods who have not sent up their Records to this Assembly, be admonished of their delinquency.

The Assembly having finished its business, it was *Resolved*, That this General Assembly be dissolved, and that another Assembly, chosen in like manner, be required to meet in the First Presbyterian church in the city of Philadelphia, on the third Thursday of May, 1846, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Accordingly the Moderator dissolved the Assembly with prayer and singing, and the apostolic benediction.

E. W. GILBERT, *Permanent Clerk.*

Philadelphia, May, 27, 1843.

TRIENNIAL NARRATIVE

Of the Progress of Religion within the Bounds of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

The history of the Church of God, from that memorable hour when, in consequence of the resurrection and ascension of her Lord, the promised

Spirit was sent down upon his apostles, to the present period, has been a history of singular mutations, severe trials, and splendid triumphs. Whenever and wherever that fundamental principle of the Redeemer, "*My kingdom is not of this world*," has been respected and cherished, then and there have the chartered blessings of the Holy Spirit been enjoyed in their purity and power.

It is a time when the voice of God's providence, in deep harmony with that of the sacred oracles, warns the Church to hold fast that sure word of prophecy, which is as "a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day-star arise in our hearts." Our lot is cast in a land, than which none on earth affords a nobler field for the development of intellect, the propagation of principles, and the growth of moral influences. Whether that intellect shall move in obedience to the law of God—whether those principles shall be true or false—whether those influences shall be pure or corrupt, depends, under God, upon the fervid aims, the fearless fidelity, and the aggressive holiness of the Church.

Standing on the broad basis of that glorious Protestant principle, "The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the only infallible rule of faith and practice," recognizing no establishment but that spiritual structure which rises upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets—acknowledging no ministerial orders, but maintaining that parity divinely instituted by Christ, and holding up the voluntary principle which is involved in the holy commission, and in the last injunction of our ascending Lord to his disciples —by these alone we expect to conquer in the conflict to which we are called by the great Captain of our salvation. These principles are congenial with the spirit of our civil institutions, the sovereignty of the people, and the union of the States. They have enabled us to present an example to other and older portions of the Church, which indeed they are now beginning to copy, as they feel the pressure of political power, and are painfully taught to hope nothing from the secular arm.

Presbyterian Scotland is breaking the shackles that have so long bound her sinewy limbs, that she may try the energy of her own long-neglected principles. Rejected by the State, she has cast herself on the strength of GOD, and is summoning her people to declare their liberty, and, as the freemen of the Lord, to go forth to his work. May the prayers of American Christians speed them in their blessed enterprise. "For the divisions of Reuben," there as well as here, may there be great searchings of heart. May our respective bows abide in strength, and the arms of our hands be made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob. May the "blessings of our progenitors be unto the utmost bounds of the everlasting hills. They shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren."

In the midst, then, of this great republic, her moral interests expanding with her territorial surface every hour, are we, in common with sister denominations, "placed and planted for weal or for wo."

How faithfully this branch of the Church has hitherto performed her duty, is not for us to declare. The works that we do, or neglect to do, speak to the eye of the cloud of witnesses around and above us, while the motives and intentions are inspected by the impartial Judge who is enthroned above all. We are a spectacle unto angels and to men. And though our course will be quickly finished, others will press into the arena. We shall transmit to our children and our successors the doctrines we preach, the principles we maintain, and the influences we create. Shall they go down through the channel of a sweet and heavenly charity, binding our interests together, and blessing

all as they go? Shall they, because brethren dwell together in unity, be "as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion, where the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore;" or shall they, by reason of a discordant brotherhood, be as the frost that blights the fair fruits of the earth? The progress and results of the freest and largest discussion of great questions during this Assembly, furnish a satisfactory answer.

Since the last meeting of the General Assembly we have been rebuked by an act of Providence as singular in the history of nations as it was sudden in its occurrence, surprising in its announcement, and far reaching in its influence.

In the death of our Chief Magistrate so soon after his elevation to the summit of political power and the culmination of his civic fame, the voice of Providence re-echoed in the ears of seventeen millions of people the divine oracle, "Cease from man, whose breath is in his nostrils. It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes."

We have reason to believe that this solemn and affecting event was duly improved by our ministers and members, and that the day of fasting and prayer subsequently recommended by the successor of the departed President, was universally observed in our churches. A pause was produced in the public mind. Contemplation succeeded. The reflections of the past and the anticipations of the future concurred in subduing that spirit of self-reliance so easily generated in the breast of a people too proud, perhaps, of the prerogative of self-government to suspect the danger that lurks beneath its exercise. Prayer was continually offered to God for our country—for our public servants invested with authority—for the ministers of the sanctuary—for all classes and conditions of men. More especially was the Spirit of God invoked to descend with healing power, and save our guilty, beloved land. He had carried us through the perils of that revolution, in the progress of which it was a common thing for our fathers, civil and ecclesiastical, to set apart days of fasting and prayer. Would he desert us when we had more dangerous internal enemies to contend with—when prosperity itself, engendering pride, had precipitated us into calamities, from which no legislative wisdom, however profound, no tactics of men, however skilful, have yet been able to extricate us? In these circumstances, when the ordinary objects of eager pursuit by men have eluded their grasp, and the wealth of the people has been scattered on the wings of the wind—when the disjointed fragments of political fabrics are floating in chaos, and nothing seems certain but the uncertainty before us, it is cheering to turn our eyes toward the hill of Zion, and say, "Behold, what hath God wrought!" to exclaim, "Lo, this is our God, we have waited for him, and HE will save us: this is the Lord, we have waited for him; we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

The Assembly has under its care nineteen Synods, and one hundred and one Presbyteries. Of these Presbyteries, seventy-three have sent up their reports. Among all these there is scarcely an exception to the good tidings of great joy which they bear to our ears. From the Northern Lakes to our Southern borders, and from the Atlantic to the far West, the voice of thanksgiving and melody is heard from the churches. Beginning with the Presbytery of Champlain, nearly all the churches under whose care have been blessed with the outpouring of the Spirit, and passing on to that of Buffalo and Niagara, on which floods of salvation have been poured from the fountains of heaven, we can only pause for a moment to hear of the wonderful works of God in the Presbyteries of Ithaca, Chemung, Geneva, Cayuga, Otsego, Genesee, Oneida, Utica, Bath, Angelica, Albany, Troy and Hudson, besides precious blessings on Tioga, Delaware, Cortland, Onondaga and North River.

Arriving in the city of New York, we learn of the goodness of God in the conversion of multitudes in the Second and Third Presbyteries; also in Long Island, in Brooklyn; and in the Presbytery of Newark; and especially in that of Rockaway, where so glorious a work has not been known since the memorable year 1740. Passing on to the Third Presbytery of Philadelphia, which embraces 41 ministers and 35 churches, we learn that in 21 of those churches the power of the Spirit has been manifested, not only formerly, but during the past year, in which about 1400 individuals, a large number in the meridian of life, have publicly dedicated themselves to God. In the Presbyteries of Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, and Erie, too, has the grace of God been signally displayed; while those of Wilmington and Lewes, in Delaware, testify that the Lord has been among them. All the Presbyteries in the Synod of Virginia have been blessed throughout their bounds, embracing the cities of Baltimore, Washington, Alexandria, Winchester, Richmond, Petersburg and Lynchburg, and numbering thousands of converts, from whose lips the song of grateful praise has ascended to the Redeeming Lamb. Each annual meeting of that Synod, for the last three years, has been crowned with the special blessing of God.

If now we enter the northern gate of the Mississippi valley, we meet the Presbytery of Cleveland rejoicing over the numerous new-born souls in her borders; Elyria, Dayton, whose ministers have increased threefold; Portage, Ripley, Medina, and the churches of Trumbull, Lancaster and Cincinnati taking up the strain, and sending it to Detroit, Monroe, Marshall and St. Joseph's, which has doubled her communicants; then crossing to Indiana and Illinois, we hear of revivals in the Presbytery of Indianapolis, which has increased her numbers two or threefold; in those of Salem, Madison, Logansport and Crawfordsville; in those of Knox, Alton, Palestine, Schuyler, Ottawa, Sangamon and Peoria. Some of these Presbyteries have doubled, others have tripled their numbers; and all speak of the extensive work of God among them. The Presbyteries of the Synod of Kentucky have enjoyed seasons of refreshing. Iowa has thirty churches, many of which have been blessed. The Synod of Missouri rejoices in the progress of truth and righteousness. Much ground has been gained in that Commonwealth. In West Tennessee, North Alabama, Holston and Shiloh Presbyteries, the achievements of Divine grace have been glorious.

Our Colleges and Theological Seminaries are reported as in a flourishing condition. Auburn, New York and Lane Seminaries, and Western Reserve College, are furnishing many faithful young men for the ministry and missions, who, we trust, will "study to show themselves approved unto God."

In adverting to the means by which these great ends have, under God, been accomplished, the Assembly has observed a remarkable coincidence in the tenor of the Presbyterial Reports. With the increasing permanence of the pastoral office. and the augmented confidence in that sacred relation, has been the growth of inward piety and outward activity. The preaching of the word publicly and from house to house—the exposition of the doctrines of the cross—prayer without ceasing to God—the distinct recognition of the agency of the Divine Spirit acting on the powers of the mind and the affections of the heart—continued religious exercises, sometimes with more, at other times with less frequency—a strong conception in each church of the necessity of awakening its own resources, combined with a deep sense of the indispensableness of Divine aid—the co-operation of the eldership and of the brethren; in fine, a certain increased activity in all the departments of Christian enterprise, have, through the blessing of the Eternal Spirit, yielded these abundant fruits. May they endure unto life eternal.

Along with these rich and spiritual blessings are others second only in importance to them, flowing out of them, and fitted to meet the evils that have threatened the cause of truth, the peace of the Church, the comforts of social life, and even the weal of our common country.

Not the least in importance is that mighty impulse applied to the temperance cause, by a sort of resurrection from the dead of a host of men, who, consigned in public opinion, and in their own conscious degradation, to a moral grave, had been abandoned to their melancholy fate. Encouraged by the voice of hope, they have burst their bonds and sprung into a new existence, raising themselves once more to the dignity of men, and, in the act, revolutionizing public opinion. These cases are reported not by hundreds but by thousands, through the length and breadth of the land. In multitudes of instances, too, the rescued victim has passed from the hall of temperance through the gates of the sanctuary to the sacramental table, rekindling the almost extinguished affection of a devoted wife, giving back to his wondering children their father, and glorifying the grace of God in all.

The cause of Home Missions is advancing. In one State, where 15 years ago there was not a Presbytery, there are now five Presbyteries, one of them embracing 17 ministers and 28 licentiates, all united under one Synod. Our brethren in the West have a great work on their hands, and we trust they will prosecute it with increased vigor and success.

It is by the extension of active and aggressive movements that the Church of God must outflank those numerous heresies and sub-heresies, which, in a land of physical enterprise and intellectual freedom, array themselves on every side. The Assembly would earnestly commend this cause to the hearts of the people.

Nor would they forget the foreign missionary interest, which, we hope, will be sustained with new energy and enlarged liberality.

The spirit of the age is demanding a wider and more thorough distribution of that word of truth and life, which, as it was the grand instrument of the Reformation, must, as read and preached, be still regarded as the means of the world's regeneration.

We are happy to learn that Bible classes are so numerous, and that so much attention is paid to the work of catechetical instruction; that in the Sabbath-schools the young mind is taught not only to acquire a lesson, but to practise the art of thinking, and that in numerous instances, truth thus contemplated and compared with truth, has, under the blessing of the Spirit, resulted in deep conviction and saving conversion to God.

The Assembly would earnestly enjoin the faithful use of the Westminster Catechism in the instruction of the young. The most effective antidote to error, so multiform in this land, is the pre-occupation of the mind with truth.

With the General Associations of Massachusetts and Connecticut, the General Convention of Vermont, the General Conference of Maine, and the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, all represented by their delegates in this Assembly, as well as with the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and other ecclesiastical bodies, we maintain fraternal intercourse, and rejoice to learn how God has visited his people in those sections of the Church, in giving life and salvation to multitudes of souls.

From the Congregational Union of England and Wales we have received a letter abounding in sentiments which it is our highest pleasure to reciprocate.

We pray for those brethren and their churches who seek to propagate the

truth, independently of the civil authority; who, while they enjoy the protection of law, invoke none of its sanctions to sustain the sacred interests of the Church of Christ.

In reviewing the personal history of the last three years, we are reminded by the death of twenty-one honored and beloved brethren in the ministry,* that the time of our own departure is at hand: that while some, perhaps, may attain to the venerable years of Hillyer, others, like Baldwin, may fall in the meridian, and others still, like Downer and Allen, in the morning of life. Let us therefore gird up the loins of our mind, watch and be sober; weep as though we wept not; rejoice as though we rejoiced not; work while the day lasts; and be "followers of them who, through faith and patience, inherit the promises." We have met here in the city of our solemnities, and mingled our counsels in love and harmony. We shall not all meet again till we reach "the General Assembly and Church of the first-born, who are written in heaven." But while ministers die, the ministry lives; though "the godly cease, and the faithful fail," the Church cannot die, nor shall her living energies expire on earth till the remotest purpose of God shall be accomplished, and the last heir of glory shall ascend to heaven!

A. D. EDDY, *Moderator.*
ERSKINE MASON, *Stated Clerk.*

Philadelphia, May 27, 1843.

*Their names are:—Asa Hillyer, D. D., Presbytery of Newark; David R. Downer, Third do. New York; Edward D. Allen, Albany; Timothy Clark, Genessee; Ebenezer Kingsbury, Montrose; Thomson S. Harris, Second Presbytery, New York; John Frost, Presbytery of Chemung; Giles Doolittle, Joseph Treat, Portage; Thomas Moore, Lancaster; R. Montgomery Davis and Samuel P. Storrs, Otsego; Frederick A. Tuckerman, North River; William M. Adams, Galena; Elihu W. Baldwin, John S. Thompson, and Samuel Gregg, Crawfordsville; George Taylor, Cayuga; Aaron K. Wright, Medina; John W. Scott and Andrew Harris, Third Presbytery, Philadelphia.

SUMMARY.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Churches.	Added on Examination.	Added on Certificate.	Total of Communicants.	STATED CLERKS.
1. Champlain	22	19	583	124	2319	C. M. Seaton.
2. Troy	23	24	346	153	2473	N. S. S. Beman.
3. Albany	10	7	64	36	1325	Thomas S. Wickes.
4. Columbia	20	18				
5. Delaware	11	20	44	57	813	Fordyce Harrington.
6. St. Lawrence	8	5	...	...	652	B. B. Hotchkin.
7. Watertown	15	21	332	...	1888	J. Brayton.
8. Oswego	13	...	...	...	*1040	
9. Oneida	12	8	...	...	340	R. C. Brisbin.
10. Otsego	13	18	235	145	1972	H. Pattingell.
11. Utica	16	20	218	93	2479	Ira Pettibone.
12. Geneva	47	31	438	313	4426	Thomas Lounsbury.
13. Chenango	15	16	...	...	1095	J. B. Hoyt.
14. Onondaga	24	26	266	233	3113	A. C. Tuttle.
15. Cayuga	33	25	168	76	1768	Seth Smith.
16. Tioga	12	15	77	101	1251	David S. Morse.
17. Cortland	13	15	253	202	1372	E. B. Fancher.
18. Bath	14	17	117	43	1258	B. Foster Pratt.
19. Chemung	20	30	207	245	1076	P. H. Fowler.
20. Ithaca	12	14	219	133	1379	Samuel Parker.
21. Genessee	19	20	...	...	2264	J. B. Preston.
22. Ontario	15	16	...	...	*1087	
23. Rochester	38	38	...	...	*2850	
24. Niagara	25	13	339	...	1707	William F. Curry.
25. Buffalo	38	34	540	332	2259	Timothy Stillman.
26. Angelica	13	20	212	...	2239	A. S. Allen.
27. Hudson	13	12	138	65	749	O. M. Johnson.
28. North River	11	14	357	113	960	Sumner Mandeville.
29. New York, 2d	6	4	103	288	1023	Henry A. Rowland.
30. New York, 3d	29	18	1145	1032	6934	Edwin F. Hatfield.
31. Long Island	9	6	10	6	575	Daniel Beers.
32. Brooklyn	21	6	549	319	1693	William B. Lewis.
33. Newark	19	14	290	215	2369	E. Seymour.
34. Montrose	21	23	237	137	1778	Sylvester Cooke.
35. Rockaway	17	17	464	224	2357	
36. Wilmington	9	14	234	50	1045	E. W. Gilbert, D. D.
37. Lewes	5	10	134	24	611	C. H. Mustard.
38. Philadelphia, 3d	43	34	1833	289	7587	Robert Adair.
39. Harrisburg	10	9	404	77	1288	William T. Sprole.
40. Pittsburgh	*7					
41. Erie	6	13	285	102	1287	Pierce Chamberlain.
42. Meadville	7	14	320	46	578	R. S. Lockwood.
43. Grand River	16	29	...	...	2325	Dexter Witter.
44. Portage	23	21	122	57	1698	William Hanford.
45. Huron	18	26	93	44	1653	J. B. Parlin.
46. Trumbull	15	20	250	93	1160	H. B. Eldred.
47. Cleveland	24	13	146	120	1136	J. H. Breck.
48. Medina	15	12	31	27	655	Lewis F. Lane.
49. Elyria	15	13	...	...	498	Xenophon Betts.
50. Detroit	17	20	105	55	1787	A. S. Wells.
51. Monroe	10	15	152	72	887	
52. St. Joseph's	12	18	163	93	533	Julius Steele.
53. Marshall	*13	*19	...	...	*783	
54. Washtenaw	12	13	148	59	1496	Ira M. Wead.
55. Kalamazoo	*4	*5	...	...	*335	
56. Athens	14	*18	...	...	*502	
57. Lancaster	15	22	319	149	3208	Alexander Duncan.
58. Marion	15	23	329	113	1820	F. Putnam.
59. Cincinnati	17	21	603	350	1985	A. Benton.

* [Last year's Report.]

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Churches.	Added on Examination.	Added on Certificate.	Total of Communicants.	STATED CLERKS.
60. Dayton	9	14	400	90	949	Benjamin Graves.
61. Ripley	11	14	346	93	1333	Jesse Lockhart.
62. Salem	7	16	367	76	357	S. Kittredge.
63. Madison	10	16	189	127	99	Windsor A. Smith.
64. Crawfordsville	13	15	218	42	717	E. O. Hovey.
65. Indianapolis	5	11	207	13	648	H. W. Beecher.
66. Logansport	5	13	489	116	631	M. M. Post.
67. Illinois	10	10	261	52	680	Hugh Barr.
68. Ottawa	17	17	46	61	539	G. W. Elliott.
69. Schuyler	10	14	194	130	691	L. P. Kimball.
70. Palestine	3	4	47	9	206	E. Kingsbury.
71. Peoria	6	7	...	...	271	
72. Alton	10	13	306	55	937	A. D. Norton.
73. Knox	11	11	110	511	571	George W. Gale.
74. Galena	7	5	94	69	322	Aratus Kent.
75. Desmoines	4	9	...	...	277	
76. Missouri	*7					
77. St. Louis	10	9	105	67	1100	
78. St. Charles	4	...	...	...	*823	
79. Harmony	5	7	68	...	140	
80. Lexington	8	8	82	...	146	
81. Winchester	6	14	181	19	646	Silas Billings.
82. District of Columbia	7	10	413	123	1315	J. N. Danforth.
83. Hanover	12	15	317	35	1215	
84. Union	19	27	458	43	2568	Fielding Pope.
85. Holston	9	12	643	60	1601	J. W. Cunningham.
86. Kingston	9	20	218	62	794	William B. Brown.
87. New River	4	7	159	...	549	George Painter.
88. Clinton	9	16	244	29	701	J. A. Ranney.
89. Green River	3	5	...	...	...	A. C. Dickerson.
90. Harmony	3	5				
91. Providence	5	5	...	...	315	T. H. Cleland, D. D.
92. Shiloh	5	15	371	59	1060	Amzi Bradshaw.
93. West Tennessee	8	11	105	9	676	Edward McMillan.
94. North Alabama	5	6	47	10	337	John Allan, D. D.
	1263	1496	20,715	8465	120,645	

MINUTES, 1846.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian church in the city of Philadelphia, on Thursday, May 21st, 1846, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Ansel D. Eddy, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from the Epistle of Jude, 3d verse:—"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you, that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

After public worship, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions reported, that the following persons* present had been duly appointed Commissioners to this General Assembly, viz.:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Londonderry.		
Newburyport.		
Champlain,	John Mattocks, Jr.	
Troy,	Lewis Kellogg,	Alberoni Kidder.
Albany,	Samuel W. Fisher,	Isaac Aiken.
Columbia.		
Delaware,	Isaac D. Cornwall,	William H. Downes.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

St. Lawrence,	Baruch B. Beckwith.	
Watertown,	Isaac Brayton,	George Camp.
Oswego,		Peter Chandler (2).
Otsego,	Alfred E. Campbell,	David H. Little.
Utica,	Selden Haynes.	

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

Onondaga,	William H. Cooper,	D. Brace.
Cayuga,	Seth Smith,	Abijah Fitch.
Geneva,	Ira Ingraham,	Richard G. Pardee.
Cortland,	Hercules R. Dunham,	John L. Boyd.
Chenango,	Justus L. Janes,	James Kershaw (3).
Tioga,	Marcus Ford,	Oliver Ely.
Bath,	Robert E. Willson.	
Chemung,	Charles C. Carr,	Simeon Benjamin (2).
Ithaca,	J. Parsons Hovey,	A. G. Stone (3).
Pennsylvania,	Elijah D. Wells.	[4]

*The figures indicate the day of the sessions on which the individual took his seat.

IV. SYNOD OF GENESSEE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Genesee,	Joseph R. Page.	
Ontario.		
Rochester.		
Niagara,	Josiah Partington.	
Buffalo,	Levi A. Skinner,	Dwight Needham.
Angelica,	Joel Wakeman.	

V. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

Hudson,	Obadiah M. Johnson,	Theodore L. Jackson.
North River,	Benjamin F. Wile,	Newton Reed.
Long Island,	Henry Clark,	Richard Cook.
New York, 3*d*,	Edwin F. Hatfield,	John L. Mason.
New York, 4*th*,	Charles H. Read,	Benjamin Strong.
Brooklyn,	Samuel H. Cox, D. D.,	Oliver H. Lee.
Newark,	William C. White,	William Tuttle.
Rockaway,	John Ford,	Wm. B. Lefever, M. D.
Montrose,	Henry A. Rowland,	Richard L. Seely.

VI. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Wilmington,	E. W. Gilbert, D. D.,	Jacob Faris.
Lewes,	Gaylord L. More,	Handy Mills.
Philadelphia, 3*d.*,	Ezra Stiles Ely, D. D.,	Francis G. Brewster.
Philadelphia, 4*th*,	James P. Wilson,	Samuel T. Bodine.
Harrisburg,	James W. Phillips,	Charles Dingee.

VII. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

Erie,	George W. Cleaveland.	
Meadville,	Richard Craighead,	William F. Clark.
Pittsburgh,	Samuel M. Sparks,	S. P. Brown, M. D.

VIII. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

Grand River,	Dexter Witter,	Hon. J. R. Giddings.
Portage,	Robert C. Learned,	Horace Foot.
Huron,	Merit Harmon,	F. Williams, M. D.
Trumbull.		
Cleveland,	Cyrus L. Watson,	Jeremiah Holt.
Medina.		
Elyria,	Daniel W. Lathrop.	
Maumee,	William H. Beecher.	

IX. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

Detroit,	George Duffield, D. D.	
St. Joseph,	Alfred Bryant,	Henry Johnson.
Monroe.		
Marshall,	Calvin Clark.	
Washtenaw,	Ira M. Wead.	
Kalamazoo.		
Ionia,	Le Moyne S. Smith.	

X. SYNOD OF OHIO.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Athens,	Samuel P. Dunham,	Silvanus Bartlett.
Licking,	Asaph Boutelle,	James Young.
Marion,	James Rowland,	John W. Thompson.
Scioto,	Joseph Chester.	
Tuscarawas.		

XI. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

Cincinnati,	Horace Bushnell,	Eli Taylor.
Ripley.		
Dayton.		

XII. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

Salem,	James Brownlee.	
Madison,	John M. Dickey,	Stephen C. Stevens.
Crawfordsville,	James H. Johnston,	James L. Allen.
Indianapolis,	Benjamin M. Nyce,	Wm. H. Wishard (2).
Logansport,	Joseph G. Wilson.	
La Porte,	Samuel N. Steel,	James M. Clark.
Fort Wayne.		

XIII. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

Illinois,	Albert Hale,	David B. Ayres.
Schuyler,	James J. Marks,	Frederick Collins.
Palestine.		
Alton,	Robert Stewart.	
Des Moines,	John M. Boal.	

XIV. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

Ottawa,	Robert W. Patterson,	Darius Hewit.
Peoria,	Henry G. Pendleton.	
Knox,	Thomas Cole.	
Galena,	Calvin Waterbury.	

XV. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

St. Louis,	James B. Townsend.	
Northern Missouri,	Joshua T. Tucker,	Alexander L. Slayback.
Lexington.		
Harmony,	Isaac W. K. Handy.	

XVI. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

Winchester,	John T. Hargrave,	Ananias Davidson.
Dist. of Columbia,	William McLain.	
Hanover,	Jacob D. Mitchell,	Carter Braxton.

XVII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

Union,	Gideon S. White.	
Holston,	Ira Morey, Jr.,	Hon. John Blair.
Kingston.		
New River,	George Painter.	
Chattahoochee,	Jesse Wimpy.	

XVIII. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Harmony,	Eliphaz P. Pratt,	William Wright.
Providence,	George W. Kennedy,	Gen. Robert B. McAfee.
Green River,	Alexander W. Campbell.	

XIX. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

W. Tennessee,	Robert C. Garrison,	William O. Perkins.
Shiloh,	Theodore M. Dwight.	
N. Alabama,	Conway P. Wing.	

XX. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.*

Clinton,	Robert McLain.	
S. Lexington,	William E. Holly,	Ansel L. Edrington.
Newton.		

General Association of Connecticut,	Rev. Leonard Bacon, D. D.
" " "	Rev. Andrew L. Stone.
General Association of Massachusetts,	Rev. Samuel G. Buckingham.
" " "	Rev. Elam Smalley.
General Association of New Hampshire.	
General Conference of Maine.	
General Convention of Vermont,	Rev. David Merrill.
Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island,	Rev. Thomas Vernon.
Presb. and Cong. Convention, Wisconsin,	Rev. Aaron L. Chapin.
Evangelical Synod of Lutheran Church,	Rev. H. N. Pohlman, D. D.
General Synod of the Ger. Ref. Church,	Rev. John H. A. Bomberger.

The Committee further reported, that several Commissions had been presented, signed only by the Moderator, or the Stated Clerk, and others not according to the prescribed form; that two clerical Commissioners were present from the Presbytery of Ottawa; and that the following persons, claiming to be Commissioners, had appeared without any Commission, viz.

Rev. John M. Boal,	of the Presbytery of	Des Moines.
Rev. Daniel W. Lathrop,	"	Elyria.
Oliver Ely, R. Elder,	"	Tioga.
Richard L. Seely, R. Elder	"	Montrose.

It was *Resolved*, that, in all the above cases, where the Commission is in the regular form, and authenticated either by the Moderator or the Stated Clerk, the Commissioner be admitted to his seat.

The other cases were referred to a *Committee of Elections*, consisting of Rev. Messrs. Henry A. Rowland, Alfred E. Campbell, and Mr. David H. Little.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [7]

Thursday, 3½ o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional members, viz.:

* Erected during the present sessions.

Rev. Joel Wakeman, of the Presbytery of Angelica.
Rev. Jesse Wimpy, " " Chattahoochee.
Rev. George W. Cleaveland, " Erie.
Rev. Joshua T. Tucker, " Northern Missouri.
John W. Thompson, R. Elder, " Marion.
Newton Reed, R. Elder, " North River.
Hon. J. R. Giddings, R. Elder, " Grand River.
Alberoni Kidder, R. Elder, " Troy.
David B. Ayers, R. Elder, " Illinois.
Rev. Cyrus L. Watson and Elder Jeremiah Holt, of the Presbytery of Cleveland.
Rev. Conway P. Wing, of the Presbytery of N. Alabama.

The Committee of Elections reported, recommending that the following persons, who had appeared without Commissions, but had submitted satisfactory evidence of their appointment, be admitted to seats in the Assembly, and they were admitted accordingly, viz.

Rev. Daniel W. Lathrop, of the Presbytery of Elyria.
Rev. John M. Boal, " " Des Moines.
Oliver Ely, R. Elder, " " Tioga.
Richard L. Seely, R. Elder, " " Montrose.

The following persons, also, whose Commissions were not in the usual form, were, on the recommendation of the Committee, admitted to seats in the Assembly, viz.:

Rev. George W. Kennedy, of the Presbytery of Providence.
Robert B. McAfee, R. Elder, " " "
Rev. Hercules R. Dunham, " " Cortland.
John L. Boyd, R. Elder, " " "
Rev. Ira M. Wead, " " Washtenaw.
Rev. Robert E. Willson, " " Bath.
Rev. Robert W. Patterson, " " Ottawa.

Nominations were made for Moderator. The Roll was called, and the Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., of the Presbytery of Brooklyn, was elected, and inducted into office in the usual form.

The Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, was chosen Temporary Clerk.

A communication was received from the Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., tendering his resignation of the office of Stated Clerk, which was accepted with a vote of thanks for his valuable services; and the election of a Stated Clerk was made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Rev. Wm. B. Lewis was appointed Stated Clerk *pro tem.*

The Rev. H. N. Pohlman, D. D., was, on presenting his Commission, received as a Delegate to this body from the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. [8]

The printed "Rules for Judicatories," with the exception of Rules 36, 37, 38, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Resolved, to occupy half an hour each morning, before proceeding to business, in devotional exercises.

Resolved, that the Committees on Synodical Records consist of three Bishops and two Elders.

The Committee of Commissions reported the case of the Rev. William E. Holly, and Ansel L. Edrington, R. Elder, from the Presbytery of S. Lexington, who presented Commissions and requested to be received as connected with the "Synod of Mississippi," a body which had been organized without any act of the General Assembly. Their case was referred to the Committee on Elections, who reported, recommending that the Synod of Mississippi be

recognized as a constituent part of this Assembly, and that the Delegates from the Presbyteries of Clinton, S. Lexington, and Newton, be admitted to seats accordingly.

Several substitutes for the report of the Committee were proposed, which, after a protracted debate, were laid upon the table, and the following substitute, presented by the Rev. D. W. Lathrop, was adopted, viz.:

"*Whereas* it appears that the Presbytery of Clinton had not, since the revolution of 1837, 1838, regarded itself as connected with any Synod in connection with the General Assembly; and that said Presbytery has not in fact been so connected, except by the provisional arrangement, made by the Assembly of 1839, to meet the exigencies of fragments, which by that revolution were dissevered from their original Synodical relations, which arrangement was not regarded by that Presbytery as intended to bind them to an integral relationship to the Synod of Tennessee;

"Therefore, *Resolved*, that in the peculiar circumstances of this case, it is proper that the 'Synod of Mississippi' should be, and hereby it is, recognized as a Synod in our connection, and the Commissioners from the respective Presbyteries of that Synod are entitled to seats in this Assembly."

The printed Minutes of the last Assembly were distributed among the members.

Adjourned to meet in this church to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 22d, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer. Half an hour was occupied in devotional exercises.

After which the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding sessions were read and approved.

The following new Commissioners appeared and took their seats, viz.:

Simeon Benjamin, R. Elder, of the Presbytery of Chemung.
William H. Wishard, R. Elder, " Indianapolis.
Ananias Davidson, " " Winchester. [9]

The Rev. Messrs. E. Smalley and Samuel G. Buckingham presented testimonials of their appointment as Delegates from the General Association of Massachusetts to this Assembly, and were recognized accordingly.

The Clerks were directed to procure 250 printed copies of the Roll.

Nominations were made for the office of Stated Clerk.

Rev. E. S. Ely, D. D., moved that the office of Treasurer be separated from the office of Stated Clerk, and that the Assembly proceed to elect a Treasurer of the General Assembly.

After some discussion, the whole subject was referred to the Rev. Messrs. J. P. Wilson, E. S. Ely, D. D., C. H. Read, and Messrs. B. Strong and O. H. Lee, to consider and report to-morrow morning.

The following *Standing Committees* were then announced by the Moderator, viz.:

On Bills and Overtures, Rev. Messrs. G. Duffield, D. D., E. S. Ely, D. D., William C. White, William H. Beecher, and Messrs. J. L. Mason, J. R. Giddings, and C. Braxton.

On Mileage, Messrs. A. Fitch, R. B. McAfee, and O. H. Lee.

On Devotional Exercises, Rev. Messrs. A. E. Campbell, C. H. Read, A. Hale, and Messrs. Wm. Tuttle and H. Foot.

On Leave of Absence, Rev. Messrs. S. W. Fisher, S. Smith, A. W. Campbell, and Messrs. E. Taylor, and F. G. Brewster.

On the Narrative, Rev. Messrs. S. Haynes, H. Bushnell, J. P. Wilson, and J. T. Tucker.

On Church Polity, Rev. Messrs. J. Ford, J. M. Dickey, D. W. Lathrop, W. McLain, J. B. Townsend, and Messrs. B. Strong, F. Williams, and J. Blair.

The following Committees were appointed to examine the Records of the several Synods, viz.: on the Records of the Synod of

Albany, Rev. Messrs. I. Ingraham, R. Craighead, A. Bryant, and Messrs. W. F. Clark, and J. Holt.

Utica, Rev. Messrs. H. A. Rowland, M. Ford, R. E. Willson, and Messrs. S. Bartlett, and J. W. Thompson.

Geneva, Rev. Messrs. I. Brayton, C. L. Watson, I. M. Weed, and Messrs. A. L. Slayback, and Wm. O. Perkins.

Genessee, Rev. Messrs. S. Smith, B. F. Wile, C. Clark, and Messrs. T. L. Jackson, and S. T. Bodine.

New York and New Jersey, Rev. Messrs. J. T. Hargrave, R. W. Patterson, S. N. Steel, and Messrs. J. L. Allen, and D. B. Ayres.

Pennsylvania, Rev. Messrs. W. H. Beecher, B. B. Beckwith, L. Kellogg, and Messrs. A. L. Edrington, and Wm. Wright.

W. Pennsylvania, Rev. Messrs. M. Harmon, J. Mattocks, Jr., J. Wakeman, and Messrs. D. Needham, and R. Cook.

Western Reserve, Rev. Messrs. O. M. Johnson, E. D. Wells, I. D. Cornwall, and Messrs. W. B. Lefever, and D. H. Little.

Michigan, Rev. Messrs. J. P. Wilson, H. N. Pohlman, D. D., E. P. Pratt, and Messrs. R. L. Seely, and J. Faris.

Ohio, Rev. Messrs. C. H. Read, I. W. K. Handy, A. L. Chapin, and Messrs. F. Collins, and A. Kidder. [10]

Cincinnati, Rev. Messrs. A. W. Campbell, G. Duffield, D. D., L. Bacon, D. D., and Messrs. J. R. Giddings, and J. L. Mason.

Indiana, Rev. Messrs. C. P. Wing, W. H. Cooper, T. Cole, and Messrs. J. Young, and H. Mills.

Illinois, Rev. Messrs. J. D. Mitchell, T. Vernon, B. M. Nyce, and Messrs. H. Johnson, and C. Dingee.

Peoria, Rev. Messrs. A. Boutelle, J. H. Johnston, H. Clark, and Messrs. I. Aiken, and G. Camp.

Missouri, Rev. Messrs. E. S. Ely, D. D., L. S. Smith, and Messrs. A. G. Stone, W. H. Downes, and R. G. Pardee.

Virginia, Rev. Messrs. J. Ford, H. G. Pendleton, J. J. Marks, and Messrs. J. L. Boyd, and S. P. Brown.

Tennessee, Rev. Messrs. A. Hale, J. Chester, J. R. Page, and Messrs. R. B. McAfee, and A. Fitch.

Kentucky, Rev. Messrs. J. Rowland, J. Brownlee, J. M. Boal, and Messrs. C. Braxton, and D. Bracc.

W. Tennessee, Rev. Messrs. J. B. Townsend, L. A. Skinner, J. G. Wilson, and Messrs. N. Reed, and F. G. Brewster.

The presentation of Synodical Records was made the order of the day for the opening of the session this afternoon.

The reception of memorials on the subject of Slavery was made the second order of the day for this afternoon, with the understanding that every one shall have the privilege of reading his memorial if he will.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, 3½ *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The Assembly met, pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Mr. Darius Hewit, R. Elder of the Presbytery of Ottawa,
Mr. Peter Chandler, " " " Oswego, and
Rev. Calvin Waterbury, " " Galena,

presented regular Commissions and took their seats.

The presentation of the Narratives of the several Presbyteries on the State of Religion, and of Statistical Reports, was made the order of the day for Monday morning.

The Synodical Records were presented and committed to the several Committees for examination.

The Assembly proceeded to the next order of the day, viz.: the reception of memorials on the subject of Slavery.

The Roll was called, and memorials were presented from the following Presbyteries, viz.: Otsego, Utica, Onondaga, Cayuga, Cortland, Buffalo, Angelica, Montrose, Erie, Meadville, Grand River, Maumee, Cleveland, Genesee, St. Josephs, Marshall, Washtenaw, Athens, Scioto, Salem, Indianapolis, La Porte, Peoria, Ottawa, Knox, Galena, Portage and Trumbull; also, from Fly and Oaks Creek church.

Also, from the Synods of Indiana, Ohio, Cincinnati and Peoria. Also, [11] letters from the General Associations of Connecticut and Massachusetts, on the same subject; which were read and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The Rev. David Merrill presented credentials, as a Delegate to this Assembly from the General Convention of Vermont, and was received accordingly.

Rev. A. W. Campbell moved, that the Committee on Devotional Exercises be authorized to confer with a similar Committee of the General Assembly, meeting in the Tenth Presbyterian church of this city, in reference to a united celebration of the Lord's Supper.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 23d, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

Half an hour was occupied as usual in devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Mr. A. G. Stone, R. Elder, from the Presbytery of Ithaca, and
Mr. James Kershaw, " " " Chenango,

presented regular Commissions, and took their seats accordingly.

The Assembly took into consideration the place of the meeting of the next General Assembly. Several places were put in nomination; after which the subject was postponed to receive a report from the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures No. 1 and 2, viz.: memorials from the Presbyteries of Hudson and Utica, on the subject of "Annual Assemblies;" which were referred to the Committee on Church Polity.

Also, No. 3, on the subject of "Doctrinal Tracts," which was referred to a Committee of two from each Synod, viz.: Messrs. Rowland and Mason, Fisher and Kidder, Haynes and Little, Willson and Fitch, Skinner and Needham, Wilson and Brewster, Cleaveland and Clark, Beecher and Giddings, Duffield and Johnson, Boutelle and Bartlett, Bushnell and Taylor, Dickey

and Stevens, Hale and Ayres, Waterbury and Hewit, Tucker and Slayback, Mitchell and Davidson, Wimpy and Blair, Campbell and McAfee, Dwight and Perkins, McLain and Edrington.

The Assembly then proceeded to the order of the day, viz.: the Report of the Committee on the election of Stated Clerk. The Committee reported, recommending that the offices of Stated Clerk and Treasurer be separated. The report was adopted, and the Assembly proceeded to the election of a Stated Clerk and a Treasurer.

Nominations were made. The Roll was called, and the Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, of New York, was elected Stated Clerk, and Thomas Fleming, Esq., of Philadelphia, was elected Treasurer, of the General Assembly. [12]

The Rev. Alfred E. Campbell was then elected Temporary Clerk, in place of Mr. Hatfield, chosen Stated Clerk.

A memorial from the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, in reference to a case of discipline in the Synod of Cincinnati (Rev. William Graham's), was presented by the Rev. W. McLain.

Objection was made to the reading. The Moderator decided that it was in order. From this decision an appeal was taken, which was not sustained, and the memorial was read.

Rev. W. McLain moved that the memorial be referred to the Committee on the Records of the Synod of Cincinnati.

Rev. W. H. Beecher moved, as a substitute, that it be referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

Mr. Giddings moved, as an amendment to Mr. Beecher's motion, that it be referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures, with instructions to report against the prayer of the memorial, and was proceeding to discuss the general subject, when the Moderator declared him to be out of order in discussing, at this time, the merits of the question.

From this decision an appeal was taken, and the appeal was sustained.

The discussion then proceeded until near the hour of adjournment.

Resolved, that the sessions of this body shall commence at 9 o'clock, A. M., and terminate at 1 o'clock, P. M.; and at 4 o'clock, P. M., and terminate at 6 o'clock, P. M.

The Rev. D. W. Lathrop, and Messrs. J. L. Mason and O. H. Lee were appointed a *Committee of Finance;* to whom was referred so much of the report of the late Stated Clerk and Treasurer as relates to the finances of the Assembly.

Adjourned until Monday, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 25th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes were read and approved.

The Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, in behalf of the officers of that Assembly, made a report on the subject of Finances, Foreign Correspondence, and other items of business which had occurred since the meeting of the last Assembly;—which was referred to a special *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. M. Ford, I. Brayton, E. D. Wells, and Messrs. D. H. Little and D. Hewit.

The Rev. C. Waterbury presented a memorial from the Presbytery of Galena, proposing such an alteration of the Book of Discipline as to provide for the election and installation of Ruling Elders for a limited period; which was read and referred to the Committee on Church Polity. [13]

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz.: the presentation of Narratives on the State of Religion, which, having been received, without being read, were referred to the Committee on the Narrative.

The Delegates from Corresponding Bodies were heard in reference to the state of religion in their respective connections.

The Rev. Dr. Pohlman, of the Evangelical Synod of the Lutheran Church, reported Articles of Correspondence between that Synod and this Assembly, which were referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The Moderator, by leave of the house, vacated the chair, to make some statements in reference to the meeting of the "Evangelical Alliance," appointed to be held in London in August next. After some discussion, the subject of appointing delegates to that Convention was referred to a *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. C. H. Read, A. E. Campbell, I. Brayton, C. Waterbury, and Messrs. J. L. Mason, R. B. McAfee, and A. L. Edrington.

A nomination was made of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies; and the election made the order of the day for to-morrow at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Rev. A. W. Campbell presented a memorial from certain churches in Kentucky, on the subject of a Re-union of the two portions of the Presbyterian Church; which, having been read, was referred to a *Committee* consisting of the Rev. Messrs. A. W. Campbell, L. Kellogg, A. Bryant, E. S. Ely, D. D., C. H. Reed, and Messrs. R. B. McAfee, D. H. Little, and J. L. Mason.

The unfinished business of Saturday, viz.: the reference of the memorial of the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, was resumed. The motion before the house was postponed, and the subject was referred to the Committee on the Records of the Synod of Cincinnati.

Adjourned until 4 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A communication was received from the Rev. John H. Bernheim, requesting permission to address the Assembly in behalf of the "Society for Ameliorating the Condition of the Jews." Permission was granted for to-morrow, immediately after the opening of the morning session.

The Rev. A. L. Chapin, Delegate from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, was heard in reference to that Convention, and the interests of religion in that region.

The subject of the election of Trustees of the General Assembly, and of Directors of the Theological Seminaries, was referred to a Committee, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. D. W. Lathrop, E. S. Ely, D. D., and J. Ford. [14].

The first Monday in January was recommended to the churches to be observed as a day of prayer for the conversion of the world.

The subject of inducting the Moderator into office, at his election, was referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The Rev. Messrs. C. P. Wing, L. A. Skinner, B. F. Wile, and A. W. Campbell, were appointed a *Committee* to consider the expediency *of* a *Correspondence* with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Rev. Dr. Eddy, made a report recommending,—1. That so much of the Rev. Dr. Eddy's report as refers to Foreign Correspondence the Assembly endorse, and adopt

the letter of the late Moderator, in reply to the letter received from the Free Church of Scotland, as substantially expressive of its own sentiments in relation to said Correspondence and the subjects therein treated; and that the Correspondence be published in the Minutes of the Assembly. 2. That so much of the Rev. Dr. Eddy's report as relates to the "Debts of the Assembly," and the "Church Psalmist," be referred to the Financial Committee.

The report was accepted. And, on further consideration, it was *Resolved*, 1. That so much as refers to the Debts of the Assembly be referred to the Financial Committee.

2. That so much as refers to the "Church Psalmist," be referred to a Committee, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. S. W. Fisher, S. N. Steel, and C. Clark.

3. That so much as relates to Foreign Correspondence, be laid for the present on the table.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 26th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Roll was called and the Minutes were read and corrected.

The agent for the "Society for Ameliorating the Condition of the Jews," was heard in a short address in behalf of that Society. After which the Rev. Messrs. J. D. Mitchell, B. F. Wile and G. L. More, were appointed a Committee to bring in a minute on the subject.

The Rev. John H. A. Bomberger presented his credentials as a Delegate to this body from the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, and was received accordingly.

On motion of the Rev. A. W. Campbell, it was *Resolved*, that,

Whereas there is a spirit abroad that seeks to unite in closer bonds the different divisions of the Christian Church;—*whereas* there prevails extensively, in some parts of our country, an impression that a union between the Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church would be very desirable; and *whereas* the General Assembly of that body did, at its sessions in May last, in Lebanon, Tennessee, appoint a Committee of Correspondence on the subject of union, a [15] Committee, therefore, be appointed to correspond with the aforesaid Committee on the subject, to obtain all necessary information, and to report to the Assembly at its next stated meeting. The Rev. Messrs. A. W. Campbell, S. W. Fisher, and C. P. Wing, were appointed said Committee.

The Rev. E. S. Ely, D. D., from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, presented a report on the subject of the memorials on Slavery.

The Rev. W. H. Beecher, from the same Committee, presented a minority report.

The Rev. G. Duffield, D. D., from the same Committee, presented a third report, on the same subject.

The order of the day, viz.: the election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, was postponed until the afternoon session.

The Rev. H. A. Rowland moved the reference of these reports to a special Committee.

The Rev. W. McLain moved that Mr. Rowland's resolution be postponed, in order to take up the following, viz.:

Whereas the General Assembly has repeatedly expressed its sentiments in

regard to Slavery; and *whereas*, by the action of the last Assembly, the whole subject was referred to the inferior judicatories, therefore, *Resolved*, that it is inexpedient for the Assembly to take any action thereon.

After some discussion, it was *Resolved*, that the Roll be called, beginning at the top and alternating with the bottom of the Roll, that each member may have an opportunity of expressing his opinion on the general subject.

The calling of the Roll commenced, and some progress was made, when the Assembly adjourned until four o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, 4 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz.: the election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

The Rev. Messrs. C. C. Carr and J. R. Page were appointed a Committee to collect and count the votes.

The Rev. Mr. Powell was then heard in a short address on the subject of the "Sabbath."

After which, the Rev. S. W. Fisher offered the following resolutions, which were adopted, viz.:

Whereas the Sabbath was made for man, and is essential to his highest physical and spiritual well-being, therefore,

Resolved, That this Assembly regard with great approbation the efforts which have been made in different parts of the United States, within the last few years, to secure the more general observance of this day as a season of sacred rest.

Resolved, That, while they rejoice in the success which has crowned [16] these efforts, especially in the increasing respect paid to this institution on many of the great thoroughfares of the nation, they cannot be insensible to the fact that Sabbath-breaking still abounds, and constitutes one of those great national sins, which, if unrepented of, will in time bring down upon us the divine indignation.

Resolved, also, That the churches under the care of this Assembly take such order on this subject, as will most effectually guard the members of the Church from the sin of Sabbath-desecration, and secure a more general and faithful appropriation of this day to the great purposes for which it was given to the world.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz.: the calling of the Roll to hear opinions on the subject of Slavery, was resumed, and continued until 6 o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 27th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The usual time having been occupied in devotional exercises, the Roll was called, and the Minutes were read and approved.

The Committee appointed to count the votes for Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, reported, that the following persons were duly elected, viz.:

To the *General Association of Connecticut*, the Rev. Messrs. Charles H. Read, Selden Haynes, and Calvin Clarke.

To the *General Association of Massachusetts*, the Rev. Messrs. Charles H. Read and Selden Haynes.

To the *Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island*, the Rev. Robert C. Learned.

To the *General Convention of Vermont*, the Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., and Rev. Lewis Kellogg.

To the *General Association of New Hampshire*, the Rev. Samuel W. Fisher and Rev. Leonard E. Lathrop, D. D.

To the *General Conference of Maine*, the Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, or the Rev. Leonard E. Lathrop, D. D., his alternate.

To the *Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*, the Rev. L. A. Skinner and Rev. Horace Bushnell.

To the *Evangelical Synod of the Lutheran Church*, the Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., or the Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, his alternate.

To the *General Synod of the German Reformed Church*, the Rev. William McLain.

The Committee on Church Polity presented the following report, which was adopted, viz.: The Assembly have received with great pleasure the Rev. H. N. Pohlman, D. D., a Delegate from the Evangelical Lutheran Church; and fully reciprocate the kind sentiments contained in the minutes of the last meeting of their Synod; and do, on the principles of action between the Assembly and other Corresponding Bodies, [17] cordially adopt, and recommend for adoption, by our inferior judicatories, the Plan of Correspondence proposed by the Delegate and unanimously adopted by the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz.: the calling of the Roll to hear opinions on the subject of Slavery, was resumed and continued until one o'clock.

The Rev. John H. A. Bomberger, Delegate from the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, after a short address, which was responded to by the Moderator, respectfully took his leave.

Adjourned until 4 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported, Overture No. 4, a memorial from members of the Synod of Indiana, on the subject of boundaries, which was, for the present, laid on the table.

The Reports of Committees appointed to examine Synodical Records were made the order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The Rev. J. D. Mitchell, from the Committee appointed to bring in a minute in reference to the "Society for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Jews," presented a report, which was adopted, to the intent that the object of this institution is deserving of the sympathy and co-operation of the Church; and that the Rev. Mr. Bernheim, the agent, and the cause he pleads, be commended to the confidence and Christian liberality of the churches under our care.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz.: the calling of the Roll to hear opinions on the subject of Slavery, was resumed, and continued until 6 o'clock.

The Rev. John Scudder, M. D., Foreign Missionary, requested the Assembly to accept for each member of its body a copy of two Tracts of which he is the author. The thanks of the Assembly were tendered to Dr. Scudder for his kindness.

Adjourned until 7¾ o'clock, P. M.

Wednesday, 7¾ *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Committee on Church Polity presented a report on Overture No. 1, viz.: a memorial from the Presbytery of Utica on the subject of annual Assemblies and the restoration of judicial power to the Assembly in the case of ministers, which was, for the present, laid on the table. [18]

The Rev. A. L. Chapin, Delegate from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, after a short address, which was responded to by the Moderator, respectfully took his leave.

The unfinished business was resumed, viz.: the calling of the Roll to hear opinions on the subject of Slavery, and continued until 9½ o'clock.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, *May* 28, 9 *o'clock*, *A. M.*

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The order of the day, viz., the reports of Committees on Synodical Records, was taken up; and, on the recommendation of the several Committees, the Records of the Synods of Utica, Illinois, Geneva, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Ohio, Western Reserve, Virginia, Indiana, Tennessee, and New York and New Jersey, were approved so far as written.

The Records of the Synods of Kentucky, Tennessee, West Pennsylvania, and Michigan, were not in the house, and the Committees appointed thereon were discharged.

The Records of the Synod of Peoria were approved with the following exceptions, viz.: that, on p. 28, mention is made of a minister being invited to sit as a corresponding member without designating the ecclesiastical body to which he belonged.

2. On page 33, there is a record of a business meeting held on Sabbath evening.

The Rev. S. W. Fisher, from the Committee on "Psalmody," made a report which was discussed until near the hour of adjournment.

The Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., was heard in behalf of the "Church Psalmist."

The report of the Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., Delegate from the last Assembly to the General Associations of Connecticut and Massachusetts, was presented and read.

Adjourned until 4 o'clock, P. M.

Closed with prayer.

Thursday, 4 *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Rev. C. H. Read being under the necessity of leaving for home, the Rev. James P. Wilson was appointed in his stead on the Committee in reference to the "Evangelical Alliance;" and the Rev. R. C. Learned in his stead on the Committee on Devotional Exercises. [19]

The unfinished business of the morning, viz.: the consideration of the report on Psalmody, was resumed, and after long discussion, the report was amended and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

Whereas, the subject of Psalmody is one of great importance, and it is

highly desirable that there should be uniformity in respect to the book used for this purpose;

And, *whereas*, the Assembly of 1840, after repeated discussions, "referred the whole subject of Psalmody, with the procuring and furnishing an edition of Psalms and Hymns for general use, to the Consulting Committee;"

And, *whereas*, this Committee, agreeably to the powers entrusted to them, after a patient and thorough examination of different books submitted to them, unanimously adopted and recommended to the churches, the book entitled the "Church Psalmist," as in their judgment possessing greater excellencies than any other known to them;

And, *whereas*, the Assembly of 1843 adopted the report of the Committee, thereby adopting the "Church Psalmist" as the authorized Psalmody of the Presbyterian Church in these United States, and giving their approbation to the arrangements entered into with the editor and publisher, in accordance with which 10 per cent. of the proceeds of all sales of 50 copies and over, was received into the treasury of the Assembly;

Therefore, be it

Resolved, 1. That it is earnestly recommended to the churches in connection with this Assembly, for the purpose of carrying out the matured action of our highest ecclesiastical judicatories, and thus securing uniformity, an increasing revenue, and the possession of a work of high intrinsic merit, whenever they deem it best to make a change in their Psalmody, to adopt the book of the Assembly.

Resolved, 2. That by the permission of the Editor, the 2d part of the 51st Psalm in L. M. of Dr. Watts' version, be substituted for the 3d part of the 51st Psalm in C. M. of the Church Psalmist.

The Rev. L. Bacon, D. D., in the name of the General Association of Connecticut, presented to the Assembly a copy of their Psalms and Hymns, which was accepted, and the Assembly voted that a copy of the Church Psalmist be presented, in return, to that Association, by the hand of the Rev. Dr. Bacon, their delegate.

The Rev. H. A. Rowland, from the Committee on "Doctrinal Tracts," presented a report, which was accepted and put on the docket.

Adjourned until 7¾ o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, 7¾ o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Hatfield, it was *Resolved*, that it be referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises, to consider and report on the expediency of recommending the observance by our churches of a day [20] of fasting, humiliation and prayer, on account of the existing war, and the low state of religion in our churches.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz.: the calling of the Roll to hear opinions on Slavery, was resumed, and continued until near 10 o'clock.

The Rev. H. N. Pohlman, D. D., of the Evangelical Synod of the Lutheran Church, after a brief and affectionate address, to which the Moderator appropriately responded, took his leave.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 29th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The usual time having been occupied in devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Records of the Synod of Genessee were, on recommendation of the Committee, approved, with the following exceptions: 1. Of a decision of the Moderator, recorded on p. 151, that a member of a Synod, who might be interested in a case under trial, cannot be challenged; which decision is unconstitutional, and ought to be reversed by that Synod; and, 2. Of an irregularity, recorded on p. 170, in allowing the original parties in a trial to speak after a lower judicatory had given the reasons for their decision, which was contrary to our Book of Discipline.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that they had given leave to Messrs. J. R. Giddings, Newton Reed, C. H. Read, I. Aiken, B. Strong, and W. B. Lefever.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz.: the calling of the Roll to hear opinions on Slavery, was resumed and continued until one o'clock.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises presented a report in reference to the celebration of the Lord's Supper, which was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

1. That a Lecture preparatory to Communion be preached on Saturday evening, in this house, by the Rev. H. A. Rowland.

2. That the Lord's Supper be celebrated on Sabbath afternoon, at 5 o'clock, in this church.

Reading the Scriptures and Hymn, by the Rev. S. Haynes.

Prayer, by the Rev. I. M. Wead.

Administration of the Bread, by the Rev. S. H. Cox, D. D.

Administration of the Cup, by the Rev. C. P. Wing.

Address to Communicants, by the Rev. S. G. Buckingham.

Address to Non-Communicants, by the Rev. E. F. Hatfield.

Hymn and Benediction, by the Rev. T. Vernon.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 5, a memorial from the Presbytery of Rockaway, on the subject of "Peace," which was referred to a Committee consisting of the Rev. Messrs. R. E. Willson, and W. H. Cooper. [21]

The Rev. B. F. Wile presented a memorial from the church in the village of Poughkeepsie, on the subject of a Day of Prayer and Fasting, which was referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises presented a report as to the result of a conference with a similar Committee of the other Assembly, in reference to a united celebration of the Lord's Supper, which was adopted, and is as follows:—

The Committee on Devotional Exercises, to whom was referred the resolution authorizing them to confer with a similar Committee of the Assembly meeting in the Tenth Presbyterian church, in reference to a united celebration of the Lord's Supper, report:

That they presented to the Committee of the Annual Assembly a certified copy of the resolution passed by this body, accompanied by the following letter, addressed to the chairman of said Committee:

"Dear Brother—It devolves upon us, as Chairman and Secretary of the Committee on Devotional Exercises of the Triennial General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, convened in the First Presbyterian church in this city, to present for your consideration the above resolution.

"Should the foregoing proposal meet the approval of yourself and of your Assembly, it would afford us great pleasure as a Committee to confer with you at such time and place as you may designate.

"Wishing you, and the Assembly with whom you are associated, grace, mercy and peace from our Lord Jesus Christ, we are yours, affectionately,

"ALFRED E. CAMPBELL, Chairman.
"CHARLES H. READ, Secretary.

To our proposal we have received the following answer, through the Rev. Daniel Baker, one of the Committee on Devotional Exercises:

"Extract from the Minutes of the General Assembly, in session at Philadelphia, May 28th, 1846.

"The Committee to whom were referred the papers relating to the joint celebration of the Lord's Supper by the two Assemblies, with instructions to bring in a minute expressive of the views of the Assembly, presented a report which was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

"The Committee on Devotional Exercises, having reported to the General Assembly a communication from a similar Committee of the General Assembly in session at the First Presbyterian church, representing that the said Assembly has authorized its Committee to confer with the Committee of this Assembly in relation to a joint celebration of the Lord's Supper by the two bodies; it was ordered, that the Committee respectfully acknowledge and reciprocate the courtesy of the communication, and say in reply, that while this Assembly recognize the above-mentioned body as a branch of the Church of our common Lord, and for this reason would, as individuals, under appropriate circumstances, unite with our brethren in the celebration of divine ordinances, yet, as this Assembly has never in its corporate and official capacity, united with any other ecclesiastical body in celebrating the [22] Lord's Supper, it judges it inexpedient to institute a new usage at this time.

"On motion, the Committee on Devotional Exercises were directed to communicate a copy of the above minute to the Committee of the other Assembly.

"*Attest.* WILLIS LORD, Stated Clerk of the Gen. Assembly."

We can only regret, that the proposal made in the most fraternal manner, and passed by a unanimous vote, did not meet with a cordial response in the other Assembly. We have long seen, that while the two Assemblies were holding correspondence with many of the same ecclesiastical bodies, and in their respective Synods and Presbyteries maintaining the usual courtesies of correspondence, and freely exchanging pulpits with each other, nothing had been done, in our official capacity, to show to the world that we recognized each other as brethren. And as the world had seen the jarring and contention that existed in former years between the two Assemblies, it seemed to be demanded from both, to manifest, by some public act, like that of the united celebration of the Lord's Supper, that, though we were separated, we were one in Christ, and would love and treat each other as brethren. And though we are the injured party, our motives and our ministerial character having been impeached, and some of us belonging to Presbyteries and churches, who were exscinded by the acts of 1837, still it was our earnest wish to extend to them the hand of Christian charity, to forgive and forget, as we pray to be forgiven of our God.

It is therefore, to us, a source of deep regret, that our brethren of the other Assembly did not manifest a disposition to unite with us, and by their influence and example aid us, in doing away the reproach and the odium which have been heaped upon the Presbyterian Church. But though we

may not, as an Assembly, under existing circumstances, unite with our brethren of the other Assembly in a joint celebration of the Lord's Supper, still it is our sincere prayer, that we may meet with them in the General Assembly and Church of the First Born in Heaven, and sit down with them at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

Adjourned until 4 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and corrected.

The unfinished business, viz.: the calling of the Roll to hear opinions on the subject of Slavery, was resumed and continued until 6 o'clock.

Adjourned until 7¾ o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, 7¾ o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer. [23]

The Minutes were read and approved.

The unfinished business, viz.: the calling of the Roll to hear opinions on the subject of Slavery, was resumed and continued until near 10 o'clock.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 30th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises; after which the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. E. S. Ely, D. D., offered resolutions in reference to a new edition of the Confession of Faith, which were referred to the Rev. Messrs. E. S. Ely, D. D., E. F. Hatfield, E. W. Gilbert, D. D., A. E. Campbell, S. Haynes, S. H. Cox, D. D., and H. Bushnell.

A memorial was presented from the Ladies' Temperance Union, of Philadelphia, which was referred to the Rev. Messrs. H. R. Dunham, and C. C. Carr.

On motion of the Rev. S. Haynes, the Committee on Devotional Exercises were instructed to make arrangements for the observance of the Monthly Concert of Prayer by the Assembly, on Monday evening next.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave of absence had been given to the Rev. Messrs. G. Duffield, D. D., and R. C. Learned, for two days, and to Mr. R. L. Seely and the Rev. W. H. Cooper, after this week.

The Moderator presented a letter from the Rev. Thomas Cole, a member of the Assembly, stating, as his reason for absence from the house, severe indisposition.

The unfinished business, viz.: hearing of opinions on the subject of Slavery, was resumed and continued until 1 o'clock.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of electing Trustees of the Assembly and Directors of the Theological Seminaries, reported the following resolutions, which were adopted, viz.:

1. That it is inexpedient to make any change in these Boards respectively the present year, and that, therefore, there be no election for the same by this Assembly.

2. That the Committee appointed by the last Assembly to inquire and report on this subject be continued, and that the Stated Clerk notify the gentlemen composing that Committee, that they are desired to report to this Assembly.

The Finance Committee presented a report on the finances of the Assembly, which was for the present put on the docket.

The Moderator and Stated Clerk, were appointed a Committee to correspond with those Presbyteries which for some time past have not been represented in the Assembly.

The Committee on the memorial from the Presbytery of Rockaway, [24] on the subject of "Peace," presented a report, which was put upon the docket.

Adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, June 1st, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The usual time having been occupied in religious exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Moderator and Stated Clerk were appointed a Committee to give proper notice to the Presbyteries, that they be reminded to take up collections for the Commissioners' Fund.

At the recommendation of the Mileage Committee, it was *Resolved*, That the apportionment of the Commissioners' Fund, be according to the actual necessary expenditures of the Commissioners, instead of the usual method of allowing so much per mile.

The report of the Committee on Finance was taken up, and after being amended, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Finance report to the General Assembly,

That they have examined the accounts of the late Stated Clerk in the matters wherein he performed the duties of Treasurer of the Assembly, compared the same with appropriate vouchers, and find the accounts to be correct, with a balance at the commencement of the present fiscal year of $37 18 cents, which is paid into the hands of the Treasurer elected by this Assembly:

That there is due to William M. Meredith, Esq., of Philadelphia, the sum of $100, which ought to be promptly paid:

That to meet the current expenses of the Assembly for printing the Minutes, salaries of Clerks, janitor's services, postage, and other incidental expenses, and present indebtedness, there is wanting the full sum of $600:

That to meet this necessity there is on hand only the sum of $206 38 cents.

That of the amount pledged by different Presbyteries at the last Assembly, $56 are yet unpaid, viz.:

From the Presbytery of		Ithaca,	$10 00
Do.	do.	Indianapolis,	5 00
Do.	do.	Ottawa,	5 00
Do.	do.	Cincinnati,	20 00
Do.	do.	Des Moines,	1 00
Do.	do.	Galena,	5 00
Do.	do.	St. Charles,	5 00
Do.	do.	N. Alabama,	5 00

That the following Presbyteries pledged nothing and have paid nothing, viz.: Columbia, Chenango, Trumbull, Washtenaw, Ripley, Harmony, Lexing-

ton, Kingston, St. Lawrence, Ontario, Huron, [25] Medina, Kalamazoo, Sangamon, West Tennessee, Clinton, Oswego, Rochester, Maumee, Marshall, Marion, Palestine, Peoria and Union:

That from these statements it appears that, to meet present wants, there is need to provide the sum of $400.

They further report, that it appears that Mr. Newman, the publisher of the Psalm Book, has not only complied promptly with his engagement to pay ten per cent. of the amount of sales on all orders for 50 copies; but that he has generously paid into the Treasury of the Assembly this percentage on all sales of the book to any of our churches; and there is reason to believe that, if the attention of the churches is appropriately called to the subject, the income from this source will, after a very short period, be sufficient to meet the ordinary expenses of the Assembly, and thus obviate the necessity for the customary applications to the churches for contributions to the Contingent Fund.

Being released from this obligation, it may be hoped also, that the churches would be inclined to make more liberal contributions to the Fund specifically appropriated to Commissioners; the deficiency in which Fund presents so great difficulty in the way of obtaining a full representation of our distant Presbyteries in the General Assembly.

In conclusion, the Committee respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That the Permanent Clerk be instructed promptly to meet the claim of William M. Meredith, Esq., by an order on the Treasurer of the General Assembly.

2. That the Presbyteries which at the last Assembly made no pledges, and those whose pledges then made have not been redeemed, be specially and fraternally notified of the importance of an early compliance on their part, with their obvious obligations in this regard.

3. That it be recommended to the several Presbyteries and sessions in our connection, to see that their congregations have the requisite facilities for examining our Psalm Book, before changing those now in use with them for any other.

4. That the Stated Clerk be instructed to make to Mark H. Newman, Esq., on behalf of the General Assembly, an appropriate acknowledgment of the Assembly for his past liberality; and to propose such a modification of his contract as shall secure to the Assembly a certain amount on all copies published.

The Moderator was appointed to preside at the Monthly Concert this evening, and direct in the devotions of the Assembly, and the Rev. Messrs. L. Bacon, D. D., and J. B. Townsend were appointed to make brief addresses.

The unfinished business, viz.: the calling of the Roll to hear opinions on the subject of Slavery, was resumed and continued until 1 o'clock.

Adjourned until 4 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer. [26]

The Minutes were read and approved.

The unfinished business, viz.: the calling of the Roll to hear opinions on the subject of Slavery, was resumed and continued until 6 o'clock.

Adjourned until 8 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, 8 *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The Assembly met and observed the Monthly Concert of Prayer according to previous appointment.

After which the Assembly took up the memorial on the subject of "Peace," and adopted the following resolutions:

1. That in the opinion of this Assembly, the Providence of God, the signs of the times, the existence of war, and the prevailing rumors of war, should awaken the Christian Church, composed as it is of the sons of peace, to earnest prayer and earnest effort, that the Spirit of God and the Gospel of peace may counteract and ultimately extinguish the spirit of war.

2. That it is hereby recommended to all the ministers of our communion, that, on the first Sabbath of July next, they present this subject to their respective congregations.

3. That the Stated Clerk cause the above resolutions to be published in the religious papers.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, *June* 2*d*, 9 *o'clock*, *A. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Cincinnati presented a report, and Mr. Stevens, from the same Committee, presented a minority report; both of which were accepted and put upon the docket.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that they had given leave to the Rev. Messrs. C. C. Carr, M. Harmon, and J. J. Marks, from the future sessions of the Assembly; and to the Rev. J. P. Wilson from the sessions of to-day.

The Rev. L. Bacon, D. D., Delegate from the Association of Connecticut, after a brief address, to which the Moderator responded, took his leave.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [27]

Tuesday, 3½ *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on the memorial from Bowling Green, Kentucky, in reference to a Re-union of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, reported that nothing had thus far been accomplished; and the Committee were discharged.

The unfinished business, viz.: the calling of the Roll to hear opinions on the subject of Slavery, was resumed and continued until 6 o'clock

Adjourned until 7¾ o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, 7¾ *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business, viz.: the calling of the Roll to hear opinions on the subject of Slavery, was resumed and continued until 11 o'clock, P. M.

The Rev. T. Vernon, Delegate from the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, after a brief address, to which the Moderator responded, took his leave.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, June 3d, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Mr. O. H. Lee, from the Committee on Mileage, reported that the sum of $585 had been contributed to the Commissioner's Fund, which sum, apportioned according to the rule recently adopted by the Assembly, will amount to 82 cents on each dollar of necessary travelling expenses reported to the committee. This sum they recommend that the Treasurer of the Assembly be directed to pay to the Commissioners accordingly; and the report was adopted.

The unfinished business, viz.: the calling of the Roll to hear opinions on the subject of Slavery, was resumed, and continued until 12 o'clock, when the calling of the Roll was completed.

The Rev. S. G. Buckingham, Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, after a brief address, which was responded to by the Moderator, respectfully took his leave.

The Rev. I. Brayton moved that all other business be laid aside, to take up the resolutions presented by the Rev. E. F. Hatfield, during the calling of the Roll.

On motion of Mr. Hatfield, the Assembly united in prayer.

The resolutions were then read; when the Rev. G. S. White moved [28] the reference of the whole subject to a Committee to consist of the Rev. Messrs. G. Duffield, D. D., and J. D. Mitchell. A division of the question was called for. The motion for reference was lost.

The Rev. R. W. Patterson moved to postpone the paper of the Rev. Mr. Hatfield, to take up the resolutions presented by the Rev. G. Duffield, D. D., which motion prevailed.

It was then moved that the Rev. Dr. Duffield's resolutions be adopted. The Ayes and Noes were demanded.

Mr. S. C. Stephens then moved to postpone the Rev. Dr. Duffield's paper to take up the first part, viz.: the resolutions of the Rev. E. F. Hatfield's paper. The motion was lost.

Mr. J. L. Mason moved that Dr. Duffield's paper be postponed to take up the second part of the Rev. Mr. Hatfield's paper, namely, the Declaration of Principles. The motion was lost.

It was then moved that the Rev. Dr. Duffield's paper be adopted, and the motion prevailed. Ordered, that the Roll be called, and the Ayes and Noes be recorded.

The Roll was called, and the following persons voted in the AFFIRMATIVE: Messrs. Mattocks, Kellogg, Fisher, Cornwall, Kidder, Beckwith, Brayton, A. E. Campbell, Haynes, Camp, Chandler, Little, Ingraham, Janes, Seth Smith, M. Ford, H. R. Dunham, R. E. Willson, Hovey, Wells, Pardee, Stone, O. Ely, Boyd, Benjamin, Kershaw, Page, Partington, Skinner, Wakeman, Needham, O. M. Johnson, Wile, Hatfield, Clark, Cox, W. C. White, J. Ford, H. A. Rowland, Jackson, Mason, Lee, Tuttle, Gilbert, J. P. Wilson, Faris, Brewster, Dingee, Cleaveland, Craighead, W. F. Clark, Witter, Learned, Beecher, Watson, Lathrop, Foot, Williams, Holt, Duffield, Bryant, C. Clark, Weed, L. S. Smith, H. Johnson, S. P. Dunham, J. Rowland, Chester, Boutelle, Thompson, Young, Taylor, Brownlee, Dickey, J. H. Johnston, Nyce, J. G. Wilson, Steel, Stevens, Allen, Wishard, J. M. Clarke, Ayres, Hale, Boal, Stewart, Collins, Pendleton, Patterson, Cole, Waterbury, Hewit.—92.

The following persons voted in the NEGATIVE: Messrs. E. S. Ely, D. D., Philips, Sparks, Brown, Bartlett, Townsend, Tucker, Handy, Hargrave, W. McLain, Mitchell, Braxton, G. S. White, Morey, Painter, Wimpy, Blair,

Pratt, Kennedy, A. W. Campbell, Wright, McAfee, Garrison, Dwight, Wing, Perkins, R. McLain, Holley, Edrington.—29.

The following persons voted NON LIQUET: Messrs. Brace, Fitch, Bushnell.—3.

The paper presented by the Rev. Dr. Duffield was therefore adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

Declaration of the General Assembly on the subject of Slavery.

The Assembly, having duly considered the subject presented to their attention, in the various memorials forwarded from Presbyteries, Synods, &c., adopt the following as the expression of their judgments:

1. The system of Slavery, as it exists in these United States, viewed either in the laws of the several States which sanction it, or in its actual operation and results in society, is intrinsically an unrighteous and [29] oppressive system, and is opposed to the prescriptions of the law of God, to the spirit and precepts of the Gospel, and to the best interests of humanity.

2. The testimony of the General Assembly, from A. D. 1787 to 1818, inclusive, has condemned it: and it remains still the recorded testimony of the Presbyterian Church of these United States against it, from which we do not recede.

3. We cannot therefore withhold the expression of our deep regret that Slavery should be continued and countenanced by any of the members of our churches; and we do earnestly exhort both them and the churches, among whom it exists, to use all means in their power to put it away from them. Its perpetuation among them cannot fail to be regarded by multitudes, influenced by their example, as sanctioning the system portrayed in, and maintained by, the statutes of the several slave-holding States wherein they dwell. Nor can any mere mitigation of its severity, prompted by the humanity and Christian feelings of any individuals who continue to hold their fellow-men in such bondage, be regarded either as a testimony against the system, or as in the least degree changing its essential character.

4. But while we believe that many evils, incident to the system, render it important and obligatory to bear testimony against it; yet would we not undertake to determine the degree of moral turpitude on the part of individuals involved by it. This will doubtless be found to vary in the sight of God, according to the degree of light and other circumstances pertaining to each. In view of all the embarrassments and obstacles in the way of emancipation, interposed by the statutes of the slave-holding States, and by the social influence affecting the views and conduct of those involved in it, we cannot pronounce a judgment of general and promiscuous condemnation, implying that destitution of Christian principle and feeling which should exclude from the table of the Lord all who stand in the legal relation of masters to slaves; or justify us in withholding our ecclesiastical and Christian fellowship from them. We rather sympathize with, and would seek to succor them, in their embarrassments, believing that separation and secession among the churches and their members, are not the methods that God approves and sanctions for the reformation of his Church.

5. While, therefore, we feel bound to bear our testimony against Slavery, and to exhort our beloved brethren to remove it from them, as speedily as possible, by all appropriate and available means, we do at the same time condemn all divisive and schismatical measures, tending to destroy the unity and disturb the peace of our churches, and deprecate the spirit of denunciation, and that unfeeling severity, which would cast from the fold, those whom we are rather bound, by the spirit of the Gospel and the obligations of our covenant, to instruct, to counsel, exhort and try to lead in the

ways of God; and towards whom, even though they may err, to exercise forbearance and brotherly love.

6. As a court of our Lord Jesus Christ we possess no legislative authority, and as the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, we possess no judiciary authority. We have no right to institute and [30] prescribe tests of Christian character and church-membership, not recognized and sanctioned in the Sacred Scriptures and in our standards, by which we have agreed to walk. We must, therefore, leave this matter with the sessions, and Presbyteries, and Synods—the judicatories to whom pertains the right of judgment—to act in the administration of discipline, as they may judge it to be their duty, constitutionally subject to the General Assembly only in the way of general review and control."

The Rev. W. McLain gave notice, in behalf of himself and others, that he should protest against this decision.

The Rev. H. Bushnell gave notice, that he should protest against that action of this body, by which the members from the Synod of Mississippi were admitted to seats on this floor.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. W. B. Lewis was appointed alternate to the Rev. C. H. Read; and the Rev. S. D. Burchard, alternate to the Rev. S. Haynes, as Delegates to the General Associations of Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The Rev. S. Haynes offered the following resolutions, which were adopted, viz.:

Resolved, 1. That when the Assembly adjourns its sessions in this city, it will adjourn to meet in the city of Cincinnati, on the third Thursday of May, 1847, at 11 o'clock A. M., at such place as shall be appointed by the Committee of Arrangement.

2. That the Rev. Messrs. Calvin E. Stowe, D. D., T. A. Mills, J. C. White, H. Bushnell, and Messrs. E. M. Gregory, P. Hinckle, George L. Weed, and J. C. Macy, be a Committee to make the necessary arrangements for the accommodation of the Assembly.

3. That the several Presbyteries have power to fill such vacancies as may occur in their present delegation, by death, or removal, sickness, or inability to attend, in the same manner as they usually elect Commissioners to the Assembly; but, as far as possible, it ought to consist of the same Commissioners.

Ordered, on motion of the Rev. S. Haynes, that the following Overture be sent down to the several Presbyteries for their action, and that they report to the meeting of this Assembly in 1847: "Shall the Form of Government, Chap. XII. Sec. VI., be so altered as to require the General Assembly to hold its sessions annually instead of triennially, retaining its present functions?"

The Rev. W. McLain presented the following protest, for himself and others, against the recent action of the Assembly on the subject of Slavery, which was ordered to be put on the records:

"In General Assembly, 3d June, 1846. We, whose names are hereto [31] annexed, do most solemnly protest against the recent action upon Slavery for the following reasons, viz.:

"1. By the action of the General Assemblies of 1839 and 1843, the whole

subject was referred to the lower judicatories, for them to take such action thereon as the circumstances of the case demanded; and it does not appear that they have neglected to act accordingly.

"2. We consider it injurious to the welfare of both the Church and the country for this Assembly to take any action upon a subject so interwoven with the political institutions of the States, as is the subject of Slavery.

"3. We believe that our brethren at the North ought not to ask us to make any sacrifice of our usefulness, in order that they may be able to quiet the noisy spirit of abolitionism by which they are surrounded; and that their ends would be better obtained by wielding the truth against all those who would disturb the peace of our beloved Zion. (Signed.) W. McLain, Gideon S. White, Jesse Wimpy, Isaac W. K. Handy, George Painter, T. M. Dwight, A. W. Campbell, Robert McLain, Joshua T. Tucker, G. W. Kennedy, J. B. Townsend, Robert C. Garrison, John T. Hargrave, A. L. Edrington, Robert B. McAfee, W. Wright, C. P. Wing, Ira Morey, Jr., John Blair, Gaylord L. More, H. Mills, Alex. L. Slayback, E. P. Pratt, William E. Holley."

The Rev. J. D. Mitchell, for himself and others, presented also the following protest which was ordered to be put upon record:

"The members of the General Assembly, whose names are hereunto subscribed, most respectfully ask leave solemnly to protest against the preamble and resolutions on the subject of Slavery, this day adopted, by a large majority of the General Assembly; first, because they consider it inexpedient that the General Assembly should take any action whatever on the subject of Slavery; the General Assembly having at its last session expressed such an opinion as the subject merited. And in the next place, because they do not believe that Slavery, as existing in the Southern States, is forbidden by the laws of God and the principles of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as revealed in his Holy Word.

"Subscribed this 3d day of June, 1846.

"J. D. Mitchell, Wm. E. Holley, Carter Braxton, W. O. Perkins, Isaac W. K. Handy."

The report of the Committee on the Records of the Synod of Cincinnati was then taken up.

The Rev. J. R. Page moved, that the consideration of the case be postponed till the meeting of the Assembly at Cincinnati. The motion to postpone was lost.

The Rev. E. S. Ely, D. D., moved that the report of the majority be adopted.

The Rev. S. Haynes moved, that that part of the report which relates to the Presbytery of Ripley be stricken out; and the motion prevailed.

It was then moved that the remaining part of the report, as follows, be adopted: That the proceedings of the Synod of Cincinnati, in the institution and prosecution of judicial process against William Graham, subjecting him first to censure, and afterwards to suspension, [32] under which he now labors, are unconstitutional and irregular, and therefore null and void; and that the Synod be, and is hereby enjoined to take constitutional action in the case, and to revise and correct its proceedings accordingly. While the Assembly thus speaks on the constitutionality of the matter, they do it without reference to the error or truth of the sentiments he advanced."

The motion was discussed till 6½ o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned until 7¾ o'clock. P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, 7¾ *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee, to whom was referred the memorial from the "Ladies' Temperance Union," presented a report which was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The Assembly rejoice to learn that the Ladies' Temperance Union has been extensively useful in promoting the cause of temperance; and hereby earnestly recommend to the ministers, elders, and communicants, within their bounds, to unite with all benevolent Christian associations and individuals, in all reasonable efforts to promote total abstinence from all intoxicating beverages. The Assembly regard it as the duty of every minister of Christ occasionally to preach on this subject, and of the friends of humanity and religion, to promote universal temperance by the influence of their speech and example.

Resolved, that the Stated Clerk of each Presbytery be directed to collect and send to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, a sum equal in amount to 25 cents for each member of the Presbytery, for the Minutes of the Assembly.

Also, that the Stated Clerk of the Assembly be directed to publish at least 1500 copies of the Minutes of this Assembly: and that a copy thereof be sent to each minister, and each vacant church-session, whose post-office address is given in the Statistical Report of their Presbytery, and whose Presbytery has complied with the above rule.

Further, that in publishing the Statistical Reports, 2 columns only of moneys contributed be retained, viz.: contributions to the Commissioners' and Contingent Funds of the Assembly.

The unfinished business, viz.: the consideration of the resolution in reference to the records of the Synod of Cincinnati, was resumed.

The Rev. L. A. Skinner moved to amend by erasing all after the word "irregular." The motion was lost.

The Rev. D. W. Lathrop moved to strike out the words "and therefore null and void." The motion was lost.

The discussion was continued until 11 o'clock, when the question was taken by Ayes and Noes, the resolution was adopted, Ayes 65, Noes 29, Non Liquet 9, as follows:

The following persons voted in the AFFIRMATIVE: Messrs. Mat [33] tocks, Fisher, Kidder, Cornwall, Beckwith, A. E. Campbell, Camp, Janes, M. Ford, Hovey, Stone, Benjamin, Page, O. M. Johnson, Wile, Hatfield, H. Clark, Cox, H. A. Rowland, Mason, Tuttle, Gilbert, E. S. Ely, J. P. Wilson, Phillips, Faris, Brewster, Bodine, Dingee, Sparks, Cleaveland, Brown, Learned, Foot, Williams, Duffield, J. Rowland, Allen, J. M. Clark, Ayres, Boal, Stewart, Patterson, Cole, Townsend, Tucker, Handy, Hargrave, W. McLain, G. S. White, Morey, Painter, Blair, Pratt, Kennedy, A. W. Campbell, Wright, McAfee, Garrison, Dwight, Wing, Perkins, R. McLain, Holley and Edrington.—65.

The following persons voted in the NEGATIVE: Messrs. H. R. Dunham, R. E. Willson, Wells, Pardee, Brace, Fitch, Boyd, Partington, Skinner, Needham, W. F. Clark, Beecher, Watson, Lathrop, Holt, H. Johnson, L. S. Smith, Chester, Bartlett, Dickey, J. Johnston, Nyce, J. G. Willson, Steel, Stevens, Wishard, Collins, Pendleton and Hewit.—29.

The following persons voted NON-LIQUET: Messrs. J. Ford, Bryant, Brewster, C. Clark, Haynes, Weed, Thompson, Hale and Waterbury.—9.

Against the foregoing decision, the Rev. Messrs. D. W. Lathrop and W. H. Beecher gave notice of their intention to protest.

On motion of Rev. A. E. Campbell, it was *Resolved*, that the Assembly do not intend by the above decision to restore Mr. Graham to his ministerial standing; that action being left entirely to the Synod.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, June 4, 9 *o'clock, A. M.*

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. E. S. Ely, D. D., reported the following resolutions in regard to a new edition of the Confession of Faith, which were adopted, viz.:

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of the publication of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church, beg leave to report, that, under the direction of a Committee of the Synod of Pennsylvania, Messrs. Perkins & Purves, of Philadelphia, have stereotyped and published "The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, containing the Confession of Faith, the Catechisms, Larger and Shorter, the Form of Government, the Book of Discipline, and the Directory for Worship," as the same were adopted by the fathers of the Presbyterian Church in 1788, except so far as the same have been subsequently amended and ratified in conformity to said Constitution; therefore,

Resolved, That this Assembly hereby authorize and approve of the edition of our Constitution as published by Messrs. Perkins & Purves in 1845; and direct the Stated Clerk of this Assembly by his certificate to authenticate the same.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be, and hereby is, directed to au- [34] thenticate any future edition of the Constitution which may be submitted to his inspection, and found by him to correspond perfectly with this first approved edition already published by Messrs. Perkins & Purves.

The Rev. J. P. Wilson, from the Committee on the "Evangelical Alliance," presented a report, approving the object of this Alliance, but recommending that no formal delegation be appointed as from this body.

After some discussion, the whole subject was indefinitely postponed.

The Rev. D. W. Lathrop, from the Committee on Finance, presented a report in reference to the legacy of William Brown, Esq., of Greenville, Tennessee, and recommended the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That John Blair, Esq., of Jonesboro', Washington County, Tennessee, be, and hereby is, appointed to receive in behalf of the General Assembly, from Valentine Sevier, Esq., of Greenville, Green County, Tennessee, the executor of William Brown, Esq., of said Greenville, deceased, the amount due to our Church on the legacy of said William Brown, Esq., deceased.

Resolved, 2. That the said John Blair, Esq., be authorized and requested, on receipt of the amount due on said legacy, to give to the executor aforesaid, a receipt in full for the same in the name of the Assembly, and pay over the amount to Thomas Fleming, Esq., Treasurer of the General Assembly.

Resolved, 3. That if, in attending to this business, any question should arise embarrassing the proceedings, the receiver be requested to correspond with the Rev. E. F. Hatfield, the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, and act in view of such correspondence at his discretion.

Resolved, 4. That the receiver above named be authorized, at his discretion, to enter into an amicable arrangement with any authorized agent of the other body, called "the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church

in the United States," for an equal distribution of the avails of the legacy referred to between that body and this.

That a certificate of the appointment of Mr. Blair, as above, be given to him, signed by the Moderator and Stated Clerk of the Assembly.

The foregoing resolutions were adopted.

The Rev. W. H. Beecher, for himself and others, offered the following protest, which was ordered to be put on record:

"The undersigned solemnly protest against the action of the General Assembly, declaring the action of the Synod of Cincinnati, in suspending the Rev. William Graham for teaching great and dangerous errors, unconstitutional and irregular, and therefore null and void, and directing the Synod to review and reverse their decision.

"1. Because the whole records of the Synod in the case were not read, though called for by one of the delegates from the Synod of Cincinnati and by others, and, therefore, the Assembly were compelled to vote without sufficient knowledge of the case.

"2. Because it is virtually declared by this decision to be unconstitutional to suspend a minister for errors ever so destructive or contrary [35] to the Bible, unless those errors be expressly specified in the Confession of Faith; thus allowing dangerous views to be taught, or practices to exist, which cannot be reached by discipline.

"3. Because the Directory provides that when important cases of unconstitutional action appear on the records of a lower judicatory, it shall be cited to appear before the higher, and answer as to what it has or has not done. Dis., Chap. VII., Sec. 1, Subsec. 6.

"4. Lastly, because the Assembly of 1843 referred the whole subject of Slavery to the lower judicatories, to take such action as in each case appeared right, with which decision the action of the Synod of Cincinnati is in strict conformity. (Signed,) Wm. H. Beecher, S. C. Stevens, F. Collins, S. N. Steel, John L. Boyd, Abijah Fitch, Dwight Needham, Silvanus Bartlett, Cyrus L. Watson, Joseph Chester, John M. Dickey, L. A. Skinner, Josiah Partington, Wm. F. Clark, E. D. Wells, Henry Johnson."

The Rev. Messrs. A. W. Campbell. H. A. Rowland, and Mr. J. L. Mason were appointed a *Committee to answer* the foregoing *Protest*.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave had been given to Messrs. Kellogg, Ingraham, Pardee, Braxton, Mitchell, Thompson, Dwight, Stone, Wright, H. R. Dunham, McAfee, Cleaveland, Bartlett, Young, O. Ely, Witter, Williams, Craighead, Cole, R. E. Willson, S. P. Dunham, Allen, Wishard, C. Clark, J. M. Clark, Partington, Bryant, James, J. H. Johnston, Haynes, White and More.

The Rev. E. S. Ely, D. D., presented the following protest, which was directed to be put on record.

"The undersigned protests against the paper submitted yesterday by Dr. Duffield, on the subject of Slavery, and adopted by this Assembly, because that paper teaches that in every case some degree of moral turpitude attaches to every one who holds a slave; and that he ought to be regarded and treated as a subject of discipline, to be instructed, counselled and exhorted as a delinquent. This decision the undersigned regards as the pre-judging of the case of every man who, under any circumstances, or for any cause, actually holds, or may possess a slave.

(Signed.) "Ezra Stiles Ely.

"Philadelphia, June 4, 1846."

The Committee on Church Polity presented a report recommending that the following Overture be sent down to the Presbyteries for their action:

"Shall appellate power be restored to the Assembly, so far as respects ministers?" And the report was adopted.

The Rev. C. Waterbury proposed that the following Overture be sent down to the Presbyteries for their action: "Shall the following be appended to the Form of Government, Chap. XIII., as paragraph 8: 'Though the office of Ruling Elder is perpetual, and cannot be laid aside at pleasure, yet any congregation may elect persons to exercise that office among them for a limited period, whenever they shall judge such a course would be most for the edification of the body of Christ'?"

The consideration of the whole subject was postponed until the next meeting. [36]

The Rev. A. W. Campbell reported an answer to the protest of Wm. H. Beecher and others, which was ordered to be put on record, and is as follows:

The Committee, appointed to answer the protest of Wm. H. Beecher and others against the decision of the Assembly on the Records of the Synod of Cincinnati, respectfully reply:

"1. That, although a call to 'read all the records of the case' only applies to cases of appeal, in the reports both of the majority and of the minority of the Committee on the Records of that Synod, a very full and ample portion of these records was read before the Assembly; that the lateness of the hour forbade such a reading; that all the facts of the case were distinctly before the house; and that, therefore, the Assembly seemed unwilling to respond to such an untimely and unnecessary call for the reading of these records.

"2. That the whole letter and principle of our Church, in the work of ordaining its officers, imply that such persons have thoroughly studied the Scriptures and the Constitution of the Church; that they have adopted these standards at ordination, because they are thus intelligently impressed with the conviction that these standards do contain all the laws and rules of Christ, intended for the government of His Church; and that if it should ever become necessary to alter or add to these rules, it must be done according to the requirement of the Book itself.

"The Assembly regard the Confession of Faith, the Form of Government and Book of Discipline, as containing the laws and rules of the Bible, by which their ministers and members are to be tried when charged with an offence; and that if the principle be tolerated that any of the church-judicatories may constitute their own opinion of error, the law by which a minister is to be tried, then no minister or member has any protection from the oppressive action of a majority who differ from him. A Presbytery might declare opposition to abolitionism, or to colonization to be a great error, and suspend a brother for the honest maintenance of his opinion in these respects; or it might cut off a brother for any opinion entertained by him which is in opposition to the sentiments of a majority of his brethren in the judicatory; which principle we regard as destructive of the true liberty of the Church.

"3. That the Assembly do not find that the Synod has been guilty of any 'gross delinquency in their proceedings;' but that their records are defective; that their final decisions were unconstitutional, and therefore null and void: and consequently can in this only review the decisions of the Synods, and cannot cite the Synod to appear at its bar as a delinquent judicatory."

Mr. Skinner, for himself and others, presented the following protest, which was required to be put on record, viz.:

"The undersigned respectfully protest against the vote of this body

receiving under their care the Synod of Mississippi, and admitting to seats in this Assembly Commissioners from the Presbyteries composing said Synod, for the following reasons: [37]

"1. The Presbytery of Clinton, out of which this Synod was formed, were represented by their Commissioners in the Assembly of 1839, and were annexed to the Synod of Tennessee.

"This Presbytery, though not represented in the Assemblies of 1840 and 1843, did nevertheless recognize their relation to us, by sending up their Statistical Reports, as will appear from the records of said Assemblies.

"This Presbytery thus constitutionally connected with the General Assembly, without any action on the part of the Synod with which they were connected, in an unconstitutional manner, divided itself and constituted three Presbyteries; and without any action of the General Assembly, these Presbyteries formed themselves into a Synod.

"We regard the action of the Presbytery of Clinton as unconstitutional, and the action of the Assembly in receiving the Synod of Mississippi as encouraging disorder in the Church.

"2. The preamble on which is based the action of the Assembly in their reception, as appears from the records above referred to, is not true in fact.

"3. If we admit, what the Assembly have assumed, that the Presbytery of Clinton was independent, and had a right to subdivide and form an independent Synod, then we protest against the action of the Assembly in receiving this Synod without any evidence that the Presbyteries composing it adopt our Confession of Faith and Form of Government.

"4. We solemnly protest against the reception of these Presbyteries on the ground, that ministers and church-members connected with said Presbyteries are slave-holders, and their Commissioners claim and advocate, that the Bible sanctions the institution of Slavery, thus increasing and strengthening the slave-holding influence in the Church.

"(Signed.) L. A. Skinner, Wm. H. Beecher, (on constitutional grounds only), H. Bushnell, Abijah Fitch, Dwight Needham, David Brace, Josiah Partington, Eli Taylor, H. G. Pendleton, L. M. S. Smith, Joseph Chester, H. R. Dunham, Silvanus Bartlett, John L. Boyd, Cyrus L. Watson, Samuel N. Steel, J. G. Wilson, (on constitutional grounds and mistake respecting the facts,) and Ira M. Wead, (on account of the unconstitutionality of the proceedings.)"

The Rev. Messrs. D. W. Lathrop and B. F. Wile, were appointed a *Committee to answer* the foregoing *Protest.*

Their answer was presented, which was adopted and ordered on record, as follows:

"In answer to the first reason of the Protesters, the Assembly remark, that the action protested against did not imply, that the division of the Presbytery of Clinton would have been constitutional had that Presbytery been integrally connected with the Synod of Tennessee, but the contrary; and proceeded upon the position which the Assembly believed at the time to be satisfactorily ascertained, that said Presbytery was not, and had never been, in its own estimation, or in fact, an integral part of that Synod: and the impression of the Protesters that the Assembly erred in this position, does not now appear to the As[38]sembly to be well founded; the only evidence being the presence of a Commissioner from that Presbytery in the Assembly of 1839, and the appearance of a Statistical Report from the same in the published Minutes of the Assemblies of 1840 and 1843;—both which facts were satisfactorily explained to the Assembly before the action protested against.

"2. The second reason of the Protesters is fully answered in the answer to their first reason.

"3. It was satisfactorily announced to the Assembly, that the Presbyteries referred to had adopted the Confession of Faith, Form of Government and Book of Discipline.

"4. The Assembly were not aware of the facts, if they are such, which are alleged as the 4th reason of the Protesters; nor were the Assembly called on, or warranted, to establish any new test of communion, or membership in our churches or Presbyteries; nor to sanction nor repudiate any question respecting Slavery, in receiving these Presbyteries."

The Narrative of the State of Religion was presented and read by the Rev. J. P. Wilson; and, after being slightly amended, was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Rev. J. Ford moved that the Assembly adopt, as their own, the answer of the Moderator of the last Assembly to the letter of the Free Church of Scotland. After some discussion, the Moderator and Stated Clerk were appointed a *Committee to prepare an answer*, and report to this Assembly at its next meeting.

The bills for printing the Roll, for janitor's services, and for the salaries of Clerks were presented, and ordered to be paid.

The Rev. H. A. Rowland called for action on the report on "Doctrinal Tracts;" when, after a few remarks, the whole subject was referred to a *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Messrs. Wm. Patton, D. D., T. H. Skinner, D. D., E. F. Hatfield, and H. A. Rowland, to act in the premises, and report at the meeting of the Assembly in Cincinnati.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the churches to observe the first Sabbath in July next as a day of humiliation and prayer, on account of the existing war.

On motion of the Rev. C. Waterbury, it was ordered, that Synodical Records be sent up for review at the meeting of the Assembly in Cincinnati next year.

Ordered, that the Narratives of the State of Religion, and the Statistical Reports, from Presbyteries, be sent up in the same manner as the present year.

The Committee, appointed by the last Assembly, (p. 11,) to report in reference to a correspondence with the "General Association of New York," not having reported, were continued, and the Rev. G. Duffield, D. D., was made their chairman.

The Committee on the "Digest" were also continued.

On motion of the Rev. W. McLain, it was *Resolved*, unanimously, [39] that the thanks of this Assembly be rendered to the Moderator for the disinterested manner and distinguished ability with which he has presided over the deliberations of the Assembly.

Also, to the Trustees of the First Presbyterian church in Philadelphia, for the liberal use of their house of worship during its long sessions.

Also, to the Knickerbocker Ice Company, for its gratuitous and liberal supply of ice during the sessions of the Assembly.

And likewise to the families of this city who have so kindly and with such readiness extended to us their hospitality.

The Minutes were read and approved. The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Moderator, with singing, prayer and the apostolic benediction,

declared the Assembly adjourned, to meet in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, on the third Thursday of May, 1847, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

E. W. GILBERT,

Philadelphia, June 4, 1846. *Permanent Clerk.*

APPENDIX.

THE TRIENNIAL NARRATIVE

Of the Progress of Religion in the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

We are permitted again, in the providence of God, to meet together and mingle our rejoicings and lamentations.

The great Head of the Church has entrusted to our faithfulness the welfare and interests of a large portion of his Church, and we set forth to the world our statement of the condition and prospects of that province of Christ's kingdom over which our guardianship extends, and for which there rests on us a most solemn responsibility. The interests of that glorious kingdom, which is ere long to be bounded only by the limits of the habitable globe, and its duration commensurate with eternity, lie very near our hearts. Feebly and frail as all human effort must be in its best endeavors, and conscious as we are of weakness and worthlessness in our purest aims and holiest purposes, yet, when we remember that our power is only derived and secondary—a mere instrumentality—we are comforted in the thought, that our hold is on an omnipotent hand—our stay on the arm of a God in covenant. We know that all his plans for the progress of his Church and the salvation of a lost race, shall be carried out and consummated, not for our sakes, but for his own honor and declarative glory. In this we rejoice; and, remembering his promises, take courage, and gird ourselves for our work.

Outpourings of the Holy Spirit.

We are not permitted, at this time, to unite in universal rejoicings, and lift the note of exultation and triumph, as in times not long past; neither are we, on the other hand, to hang our harps on the willows and sit down in mourning. There has been no general awakening through our bounds, nor has there been, by any means, the total absence of the influence of the Spirit of God. On the contrary, from nearly all of our Presbyteries, there are interesting reports of revivals in particular churches; and in many of these Presbyteries, a large proportion of their churches have been watered by the dews of divine grace; and those parts, that have been thus more especially favored, are the Southern and Southwestern portions of the Church.

Cheering Signs.

Among the favorable indications, apparent in the churches, and worthy of important notice, are the following, to wit:—the prevalence of peace and harmony in doctrine and discipline; renewed and growing attention to catechetical instruction; greatly increased regular attendance on the public services of the sanctuary; a more systematic, and consequently a more efficient, mode of benevolent contributions; the permanent position of the temperance cause; the increased power, number, and efficiency of Sabbath-schools; and the particular attention, which it is evident, from all the reports of the Southern Presbyteries, is paid to the religious instruction and improvement of the colored population. We notice, also, the evidence of a rising

standard of morality, in the respect which is manifested for the Christian Sabbath, the universal observance of the monthly concert of prayer, and we add, also, the growing impression on the minds of pastors, that the increase and enlargement of their respective churches, and the advancement of the cause of the Redeemer, must depend (under God) more on the stated and regular work of the ministry, and the active consistent piety of the members, than on sudden excitement, startling impulse, and an over-anxious and questionable impatience of the usual steady and established order of progressive increase and constant accession.

Unfavorable Appearances.

But, while we notice these favorable indications, there are also equally-evident unfavorable influences silently operating *in the Church*, abating its aggressive power, and materially retarding its onward progress. To these, also, we feel compelled to recur.

Household Duties.

(1.) First, the neglect of family-religion. The danger now seems to be, the substitution of Sabbath-school instruction for that rigid, faithful, parental training, that characterized the principles and practice of our forefathers; the results of which were, in times past, the hope and strength of the Church. The responsibility of every parent, for the religious culture of his children, cannot be devolved on the Sabbath-school teacher. It cannot even be shared with him. No parent can ever, without great guilt, turn his children away from his own table, to eat the crumbs of the bread of life that fall from the hands of a stranger. The responsibility must for ever rest where God has placed it. And, while the Sabbath-school teacher co-operates kindly and powerfully with the parent, and aids him in training up his infant offspring for the skies, he does not intend to supersede the duties of the natural instructor, but to assist him to lead them in the path of holiness and peace to God. The fulfillment of God's promise to the seed of the righteous, in blessing faithful, early, parental training, is seen in abundance of facts every where. From such as these the ranks of the redeemed are mainly made up. From among such as these we look for pastors for our churches, and for that view of duty dependent on doctrine, and that sound enlightened piety, which are at once the glory of the Church and the secret of its power and perpetuity.

The Children of the Church.

In connection with this, also, may be mentioned, as one of the unfavorable indications, the culpable inattention of the churches to their relative duty in regard to the baptized children. Too little solemnity is attached to this. No specific class of duties seems to spring from it. But these baptized youth are the children of the Church, not for the purpose of discipline, for obvious reasons; but they are the objects of the Church's deepest solicitude, and prayers, and hopes. It should be seen and known, that the ordinance is not a mere unmeaning ceremony, but a precious, glorious privilege—full of blessing to the subjects of it. It is feared, that the relation of such youth to the Church is not clearly stated, and therefore the relative duties are not understood or intelligently practised.

Light Reading.

(2.) The second evil that claims our notice is the corrupting influence, in our churches, and among our youngest and most promising members, of the

light literature of the day. The trash of foreign glutted markets is imported here, and poured in polluted streams along our railways and lines of public travel. These publications are eagerly purchased and read, and corrupt passions are excited, and pampered, and fed. The imagination is filled with impure images; the ear is familiarized to the language of blasphemy; doubts are engendered on fundamental principles of faith and morality. The language of the wise man is clear and pointed: "Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge." An infidel argument unanswered, in any mind, has to that mind the moral power of a demonstration, and will affect the life accordingly. Let the pastors of churches see to it, and in every way use their influence against it. It is fraught with evil.

DANGER FROM WITHOUT.

If we look at the *external* influences that surround the Church, we shall find many that present themselves in an unfavorable light. Let us glance at these first.

CRAFTINESS OF ERROR.

There are various forms of error, gross delusions, deeply intrenched in the corrupt passions and selfish interests of the human heart, that interpose formidable barriers to the onward march of the gospel.—These errors are more rampant, and possess more vitality, in the newly settled parts of the country; and create difficulties, to which those whose lot is cast in more favored spots are comparative strangers.—Universalism, or, in other words, practical Atheism; Unitarianism, a religion dead and lying in state; Fourierism, and Free-thinking, in all its forms; and last of all, Romanism, most subtle and dangerous of all;—gasping in Italy—reviving by sufferance in France—but, in this country, accommodating itself, as far as possible, to our antagonist institutions. Here the great battle must be fought; and that dark superstition, which has distended itself like an endless dungeon over the earth, is here to fall before the simple elements, "light and love." Our work is to keep the Bible open, to discard all formalism in every shape, to exhibit religion theoretically as she is drawn in the Bible, in simple vesture, pure, unpensioned, unstipendiary, adorned with no colors but those which, like the rainbow, are formed by the sunbeams of the heavens; to exhibit her practically as a living vital principle, in "all holy conversation and godliness."

The power of simple truth is the weapon of aggression and defence, carried from house to house, and from heart to heart, by the faithful, laborious servant of Christ, encountering men off their guard, disarming prejudice, relieving doubts, easing the burdened conscience, and leading the soul almost unresistingly up to God. This is mighty to pull down the strongholds of sin, and build up the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

PREVALENCE OF WAR.

The next external influence, from which that we may be delivered, our prayers and supplications should go up without intermission to the throne of grace, is war—opposed in spirit and practice to every principle of the gospel of Christ. The mission of the Church in the world is a mission of peace and good will, of meekness and love, universally felt and diffused. And, when the glorious gospel is in the whole earth, and the shout goes up, "it is finished," war shall cease. Our duty as Christians is to humble ourselves before God, to deprecate his judgments, and earnestly to pray for the

coming of that time when men shall beat their "swords into plough-shares," and their "spears into pruning-hooks."

A condition of war is always most unfavorable for the progress of religion. The mind is in too high a state of excitement to be strongly susceptible of religious appeal and motive; and the vices in the code of Christian morals are elevated to the rank of virtues.

EVANGELICAL UNION.

A most delightful theme of contemplation, and a most remarkable sign of the times, is that principle of union manifested to some degree in this country, and widely in Europe. The results cannot but be salutary and powerful on the influence and progress of the Protestant Church. We hail the sign with unfeigned joy. We anticipate with hope and exultation the approaching convocation in the city of London, and trust in God that the result may be the taking of a high advanced position, before the Church and the world, for evangelical union; that the moral power of Christendom may no longer be paralyzed by discord and disunion, but move on, as the enemy has always done, with unbroken front.

PROGRESS.

There has been a gratifying increase in the numerical strength of our branch of the Church of Christ, and the returns of the different associations of benevolence indicate the increased confidence of the Church, in all our organized arrangements for the dispensation of the charitable funds of the Church.

COUNSEL.

In conclusion, we call upon all our ministers to give themselves wholly to their work, to be "good soldiers of Jesus Christ," remembering that they own no camp, but must be always in the field; to be diligent in the study of the Scriptures, to be sober and vigilant, watching for the coming of the Lord, praying for that time, when there shall be an altar to God on every mountain, when every valley shall ring with an hosanna, and every tongue become vocal with one utterance.

SAMUEL HANSON COX, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

Philadelphia, June 4, 1846.

STATISTICAL REPORT

Of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Synods and Presbyteries.

The General Assembly has under its care twenty Synods, comprising one hundred and five Presbyteries, viz.:

1. The Synod of Albany comprises seven Presbyteries, viz.: Londonderry, Newburyport, Champlain, Troy, Albany, Columbia and Delaware.

2. The Synod of Utica comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: St. Lawrence, Watertown, Oswego, Otsego and Utica.

3. The Synod of Geneva comprises ten Presbyteries, viz.: Onondaga,

Cayuga, Geneva, Cortland, Chenango, Tioga, Bath, Chemung, Ithaca and Pennsylvania.

4. The Synod of Genesee comprises six Presbyteries, viz.: Genesee, Ontario, Rochester, Niagara, Buffalo, and Angelica.

5. The Synod of New York and New Jersey comprises nine Presbyteries, viz.: Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York, 3d, New York, 4th, Brooklyn, Newark, Rockaway and Montrose.

6. The Synod of Pennsylvania comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: Wilmington, Lewes, Philadelphia, 3d, Philadelphia, 4th, and Harrisburg.

7. The Synod of West Pennsylvania comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Erie, Meadville and Pittsburgh.

8. The Synod of Western Reserve comprises eight Presbyteries, viz.: Grand River, Portage, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland, Medina, Elyria, and Maumee.

9. The Synod of Michigan comprises seven Presbyteries, viz.: Detroit, St. Joseph, Monroe, Marshall, Washtenaw, Kalamazoo, and Ionia.

10. The Synod of Ohio comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: Athens, Licking, Marion, Scioto and Tuscarawas.

11. The Synod of Cincinnati comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Cincinnati, Ripley and Dayton.

12. The Synod of Indiana comprises seven Presbyteries, viz.: Salem, Madison, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, Logansport, La Porte, and Fort Wayne.

13. The Synod of Illinois comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: Illinois, Schuyler, Palestine, Alton, and Des Moines.

14. The Synod of Peoria comprises four Presbyteries, viz.: Ottawa, Peoria, Knox and Galena.

15. The Synod of Missouri comprises four Presbyteries, viz.: St. Louis, Northern Missouri, Lexington and Harmony.

16. The Synod of Virginia comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Winchester, District of Columbia and Hanover.

17. The Synod of Tennessee comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: Union, Holston, Kingston, New River and Chattahoochee.

18. The Synod of Kentucky comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Harmony, Providence, and Green River.

19. The Synod of West Tennessee comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: West Tennessee, Shiloh and North Alabama.

20. The Synod of Mississippi comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Clinton, S. Lexington and Newton.

SUMMARY OF THE TRIENNIAL SCHEDULE.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Comm. Fund.	Conting. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	7	124	1	1	106	464	259	13,409	147	303	$67 95	$46 50	Charles Doolittle.
1. Londonderry *	...	21	...	...	10	...	...	1,982					
2. Newburyport *	...	14	...	...	2	...	...	437					
3. Champlain *	...	23	...	1	20	...	...	2,547	...	...	5 00	.....	C. M. Seaton.
4. Troy	...	19	...	...	24	243	141	3,062	86	145	30 00	29 50	A. Boardman Lambert.
5. Albany	...	12	1	...	9	202	97	1,441	52	130	32 95	12 00	Thomas S. Wickes.
6. Columbia *	...	20	...	...	22	...	...	2,574	...	...			
7. Delaware	...	15	...	...	19	19	21	1,366	9	28	.....	5 00	Isaac D. Cornwall.
II. Synod of Utica	5	90	5	...	98	1,029	646	9,780	293	681	72 77	32 50	Selden Haynes.
1. St. Lawrence	...	10	1	...	8	59	99	800	13	65	.....	.....	S. Storrs Howe.
2. Watertown	...	16	...	...	22	270	118	2,397	103	218	55 00	15 50	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego	...	14	1	...	21	223	...	1,220	41	119	.....	.....	Robert W. Condit.
4. Otsego	...	16	1	...	20	264	158	2,005	83	166	.....	7 00	Horatio Pattengill.
5. Utica	...	34	2	...	27	213	271	3,358	53	113	17 77	10 00	
III. Synod of Geneva	10	197	42	11	195	1,779	1,358	20,790	641	1,295	100 67	86 76	Seth Smith.
1. Onondaga	...	32	1	...	28	176	146	3,027	50	134	46 50	23 00	Richard F. Cleveland.
2. Cayuga	...	33	24	5	25	264	199	2,807	104	130	32 00	20 00	Seth Smith.
3. Geneva	...	44	1	3	32	618	437	5,385	229	542	4 17	20 00	Thomas Lounsbury.
4. Cortland	...	9	3	...	14	...	...	1,809	...	...	.....	5 00	Ezra B. Fancher.
5. Chenango	...	14	9	3	18	279	144	1,609	107	179	.....	.....	Amos C. Tuttle.
6. Tioga	...	11	...	...	16	104	93	1,696	31	97	.....	.....	David S. Morse.
7. Bath	...	15	2	...	18	156	150	1,522	65	103	.....	6 50	Robert E. Willson.
8. Chemung	...	19	...	...	21	112	142	953	33	63	10 00	10 00	B. Foster Pratt.
9. Ithaca *	...	11	2	...	14	...	...	1,668	...	...	.....	2 26	Samuel Parker.
10. Pennsylvania	...	9	...	...	9	70	47	314	22	47	8 00	.....	Samuel J. McCullough.
IV. Synod of Genessee	6	136	...	...	145	552	429	16,046	126	304	49 50	49 50	Timothy Stillman.
1. Genessee	...	20	...	...	21	89	...	2,111	...	...	.....	15 00	John B. Preston.
2. Ontario *	...	15	...	...	25	...	...	2,831	...	...	.....	.....	John Barnard.

* Last report.

3. Rochester *	...	36	...	...	29	...	...	3,935	...	...	.....	.....	John B. Richardson.
4. Niagara	...	19	...	...	15	71	182	2,102	17	92	27 50	10 00	William N. McHarg.
5. Buffalo	...	36	...	...	36	271	247	3,212	100	212	21 00	20 00	Timothy Stillman.
6. Angelica	...	10	..	...	19	121	...	1,855	9	...	1 00	4 00	Asa S. Allen.
V. Synod of N. Y. and N. J	9	158	37	25	118	2,238	2,295	21,971	633	2,206	344 33	438 45	William B. Lewis.
1. Hudson	...	15	...	2	12	205	130	1,882	83	46	34 75	75 00	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	...	13	...	4	14	215	136	1,708	71	126	41 58	35 00	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	...	12	1	...	6	...	...	467	14	54	.....	7 00	Daniel Beers.
4. New York, 3d	...	23	13	5	13	562	664	4,793	228	583	67 15	55 00	Edwin F. Hatfield.
5. New York, 4th	...	20	18	9	11	451	762	3,243	101	544	53 85	33 45	Erskine Mason, D. D.
6. Brooklyn	...	20	...	1	7	160	188	1,855	26	147	76 00	.....	William B. Lewis.
7. Newark	...	20	2	3	14	209	235	3,567	46	336	50 00	158 44	Ebenezer Seymour.
8. Rockaway	...	19	...	...	18	187	67	2,367	...	163	21 00	54 56	Joel Campbell.
9. Montrose	...	16	3	1	23	249	113	2,089	64	207	.....	20 00	Adam Miller.
VI. Synod of Pennsylvania	5	66	5	5	68	1,383	551	10,889	330	955	90 70	552 31	John Grant.
1. Wilmington	...	10	1	3	13	233	73	1,086	63	77	5 00	80 00	Eliphalet W. Gilbert, D. D.
2. Lewes	...	4	...	...	10	79	13	636	9	33	.....	.....	Cornelius H. Mustard.
3. Philadelphia, 3d	...	20	...	...	15	282	126	3,355	35	251	39 70	.....	John Crowell.
4. Philadelphia, 4th	...	22	4	2	21	693	288	4,718	213	492	10 00	397 31	Robert Adair.
5. Harrisburg	...	10	...	...	9	96	51	1,094	10	102	36 00	75 00	James W. Phillips.
VII. Synod of W. Pennsylvania	3	19	1	1	35	162	159	2,366	26	244	45 73	35 00	George A. Lyon.
1. Erie	...	8	...	...	14	36	60	1,094	9	91	29 63	5 00	Pierce Chamberlain.
2. Meadville	...	6	...	1	13	70	38	677	13	59	16 10	10 00	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	...	5	1	...	8	56	61	595	4	94	.....	20 00	David H. Riddle, D. D.
VIII. Synod of Western Reserve.	8	130	15	2	146	585	349	9,625	110	454	66 24	22 84	Alfred H. Betts.
1. Grand River	...	18	1	...	28	104	25	2,182	30	20	.....	2 00	Dexter Witter.
2. Portage	...	27	12	...	19	20	49	1,639	5	55	20 92	15 84	William Hanford.
3. Huron	...	17	2	...	22	188	187	1,550	59	136	20 32	.....	Jonathan B. Parlin.
4. Trumbull	...	17	...	...	19	78	88	1,617	7	143	.....	.....	Henry B. Eldred.
5. Cleveland	...	18	...	1	14	195	...	1,226	...	...	20 00	3 00	Newton Barrett.
6. Medina	...	11	...	...	13	...	...	584	9	100	.....	.....	Lewis F. Laine.
7. Elyria *	...	13	...	...	13	...	...	444	...	...	3 00	2 00	
8. Maumee	...	9	...	1	18	...	...	383	...	...	2 00	.....	E. Richard Tucker.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Comm. Fund.	Conting. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
IX. Synod of Michigan	7	84	2	2	106	437	495	6,591	103	276	$60 50	$20 00	George Duffield, D. D.
1. Detroit	...	20	...	...	23	36	60	1,601	9	54	.....	10 00	Nathaniel West.
2. St. Joseph	...	12	1	2	21	230	161	1,035	53	102	55 00	5 00	Norman Kellogg.
3. Monroe	...	10	...	...	15	12	30	853	4	21	.....	5 00	E. N. Nichols.
4. Marshall	...	14	1	...	17	80	...	1,155	3	16	.....	.....	Samuel H. Hall.
5. Washtenaw	...	12	...	...	17	44	84	1,440	16	40	5 50	.....	Livingston M. Glover.
6. Kalamazoo	...	11	...	...	9	19	76	416	13	40	.....	.....	Ova P. Hoyt.
7. Ionia	...	5	...	...	4	16	84	91	5	3	.....	.....	Le Moyne S. Smith.
X. Synod of Ohio	5	54	7	...	70	914	382	5,218	191	590	69 50	11 00	Franklin Putnam.
1. Athens	...	12	2	...	19	224	46	765	11	78	.....	5 00	Lucien C. Ford.
2. Licking	...	13	1	...	16	171	148	2,149	50	199	30 50	5 00	Alexander Duncan.
3. Marion	...	17	2	...	20	293	128	1,511	84	172	.....	.....	Henry Van Deman.
4. Scioto	...	7	1	...	9	175	42	510	41	116	39 00	1 00	Joseph Chester.
5. Tuscarawas	...	5	1	...	6	48	18	283	5	25	.....	.....	Ebenezer Buckingham.
XI. Synod of Cincinnati	3	40	9	8	49	271	298	3,889	31	128	.....	10 00	Thornton A. Mills.
1. Cincinnati	...	20	9	8	21	271	298	1,939	31	128	.....	... ..	Andrew Benton.
2. Ripley *	...	12	...	...	14	...	...	1,210	...	...	.....	.....	Jesse Lockhart.
3. Dayton *	...	8	...	...	14	...	...	740	...	...	.....	10 00	Benjamin Graves.
XII. Synod of Indiana	7	60	5	2	101	806	603	4,460	225	470	183 09	42 50	Harvey Curtis.
1. Salem	...	8	1	...	11	82	43	698	11	25	.....	5 00	Solomon Kittredge.
2. Madison	...	10	1	...	17	103	89	729	22	115	65 59	10 00	Harvey Curtis.
3. Crawfordsville	...	13	2	...	18	183	98	846	72	137	45 50	15 00	James H. Johnston.
4. Indianapolis	...	11	...	...	19	239	88	880	51	97	.....	2 50	Thompson Bird.
5. Logansport	...	6	1	...	11	101	121	741	45	60	51 00	5 00	William M. Cheever.
6. La Porte	...	4	...	...	9	98	164	226	24	36	21 00	.....	John M. Bishop.
7. Fort Wayne	...	8	...	2	13	...	...	340	...	...	.....	5 00	Charles Beecher.

XIII. Synod of Illinois	5	53	2	...	62	529	358	3,407	157	134	16 00	6 00	Lycurgus P. Kimball.
1. Illinois	...	18	...	...	19	106	14	1,075	34	5	5 00	.....	Albert Hale.
2. Schuyler	...	10	1	...	11	98	124	745	23	93	.....	3 00	Henry C. Abernethy.
3. Palestine *	...	3	...	...	4	...	...	206	...	...	.....	.....	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	...	16	1	...	19	303	184	1,121	95	220	6 00	2 00	Augustus T. Norton.
5. Desmoines	...	6	...	...	9	22	36	260	5	16	5 00	1 00	Charles R. Fisk.
XIV. Synod of Peoria	4	52	1	...	46	307	586	2,230	32	231	38 87	10 00	Robert W. Patterson.
1. Ottawa	...	26	1	...	15	141	370	827	30	141	33 87	5 00	Flavel Bascom.
2. Peoria	...	5	...	...	9	14	33	305	...	16	5 00	.....	Henry G. Pendleton.
3. Knox	...	11	...	...	10	8	39	547	2	25	.....	5 00	Thomas Cole.
4. Galena	...	10	...	...	12	144	144	551	...	49	.....	.....	Calvin Waterbury.
XV. Synod of Missouri	4	33	3	5	50	178	286	1,832	66	211	66 00	5 00	Joshua T. Tucker.
1. St. Louis	...	7	...	...	8	114	221	686	20	117	.....	5 00	Henry M. Field.
2. Northern Missouri	...	9	2	4	14	32	38	666	17	66	17 00	.....	Fincelius R. Gray.
3. Lexington	...	10	...	...	11	...	...	224	...	...	.....	.....	Elijah A. Carson.
4. Harmony	...	7	1	1	17	32	27	256	29	28	49 00	.....	Amasa Jones.
XVI. Synod of Virginia	3	39	6	11	39	332	155	3,659	93	419	115 00	46 00	John C. Smith.
1. Winchester	...	10	1	6	14	105	12	882	29	91	18 00	6 00	Patterson Fletcher.
2. District of Columbia	...	13	4	...	10	84	84	1,474	21	203	3 00	10 00	James G. Hamner, D. D.
3. Hanover	...	16	1	5	15	143	59	1,303	43	125	94 00	30 00	A—— J. Leavenworth.
XVII. Synod of Tennessee	5	40	1	3	73	333	115	5,422	113	408	13 00	20 00	Fielding Pope.
1. Union	...	16	...	3	30	164	69	2,513	82	198	8 00	.....	Fielding Pope.
2. Holston	...	9	1	...	12	128	21	1,490	31	154	.....	10 00	Phillips Wood.
3. Kingston *	...	8	...	...	16	...	...	738	...	...	.....	5 00	William B. Brown.
4. New River *	...	3	...	...	7	...	...	549	...	...	5 00	5 00	George Painter.
5. Chattahoochee	...	4	...	...	8	41	25	132	...	56	.....	.....	Joseph McKee.
XVIII. Synod of Kentucky	3	14	1	4	21	225	38	954	58	138	145 00	.....	Archibald C. Dickerson.
1. Harmony	...	6	1	...	9	123	16	393	52	37	.....	.....	Eliphaz P. Pratt.
2. Providence	...	4	...	4	5	24	9	365	6	72	145 00	.....	Thomas H. Cleland.
3. Green River	...	4	...	...	7	78	13	196	...	29	.....	.....	Archibald C. Dickerson.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Comm. Fund.	Contng. Fund.	STATED CLERKS
XIX. Synod of West Tennessee...	3	28	6	6	34	184	87	2,021	72	151	$91 00	$15 00	William Eagleton.
1. W. Tennessee.....	...	13	4	4	11	...	...	807	...	...	.....	.....	Edward McMillan.
2. Shiloh	...	8	2	2	16	100	67	863	36	88	.....	10 00	Amzi Bradshaw.
3. N. Alabama.....	...	7	...	...	7	84	20	351	36	63	91 00	5 00	Conway P. Wing.
XX. Synod of Mississippi.....	3	13	2	3	19	354	36	857	115	81	267 85	10 00	Alexander Newton.
1. Clinton.....	...	4	...	2	4	106	17	186	52	51	86 00	5 00	George More.
2. S. Lexington.....	...	5	2	...	8	152	10	435	...	...	181 85	.....	William Edwards Holley.
3. Newton.....	...	4	...	1	7	96	9	236	63	30	.....	5 00	Robert M. Morrison.

SCHEDULE OF SYNODS.

NAMES OF SYNODS.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Examination.	Added on Certificate.	Whole Number of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Commiss. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
1. Albany	7	124	1	1	106	464	259	13,409	147	303	$67 95	$46 50	Charles Doolittle.
2. Utica	5	90	5	...	98	1,029	646	9,780	293	681	72 77	32 50	Selden Haynes.
3. Geneva	10	197	42	11	195	1,779	1,358	20,790	641	1,295	100 67	86 76	Seth Smith.
4. Genessee	6	136	...	...	145	552	429	16,046	126	304	49 50	49 50	Timothy Stillman.
5. N. York and N. Jersey	9	158	37	25	118	2,238	2,295	21,971	633	2,206	344 33	438 45	William B. Lewis.
6. Pennsylvania	5	66	5	5	68	1,383	551	10,889	330	955	90 70	552 31	John Grant.
7. W. Pennsylvania	3	19	1	1	35	162	159	2,366	26	244	45 73	35 00	George A. Lyon.
8. Western Reserve	8	130	15	2	146	585	349	9,625	110	454	66 24	22 84	Alfred H. Betts.
9. Michigan	7	84	2	2	106	437	495	6,591	103	276	60 50	20 00	George Duffield, D. D.
10. Ohio	5	54	7	...	70	914	382	5,218	191	590	69 50	11 00	Franklin Putnam.
11. Cincinnati	3	40	9	8	49	271	298	3,889	31	128	.....	10 00	Thornton A. Mills.
12. Indiana	7	60	5	2	101	806	603	4,460	225	470	183 09	42 50	Harvey Curtis.
13. Illinois	5	53	2	...	62	529	358	3,407	157	134	16 00	6 00	Lycurgus P. Kimball.
14. Peoria	4	52	1	...	46	307	586	2,230	32	231	38 87	10 00	Robert W. Patterson.
15. Missouri	4	33	3	5	50	178	286	1,832	66	211	66 00	5 00	Joshua T. Tucker.
16. Virginia	3	39	6	11	39	332	155	3,659	93	419	115 00	46 00	John C. Smith.
17. Tennessee	5	40	1	3	73	333	115	5,422	113	408	13 00	20 00	Fielding Pope.
18. Kentucky	3	14	1	4	21	225	38	954	58	138	145 00	.....	Archibald C. Dickerson.
19. W. Tennessee	3	28	6	6	34	184	87	2,021	72	151	91 00	15 00	William Eagleton.
20. Mississippi	3	13	2	3	19	354	36	857	115	81	267 85	10 00	Alexander Newton.
	105	1,430	151	89	1,581	13,062	9,485	145,416	3,562	9,679	$1,903 70	$1,459 36	

MINUTES, 1847.

Cincinnati, May 20, 1847.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, pursuant to adjournment, in the Second Presbyterian church of Cincinnati, on Thursday, May 20th, 1847, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with prayer, by the Rev. Samuel H. Cox., D. D., the Moderator.

The whole of the morning-session was spent in devotional exercises.

In the absence of the Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, the Rev. James B. Townsend was chosen Temporary Clerk.

The Assembly then adjourned until 3½ o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, 3½ *o'clock, P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the following members were present:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Albany,	Samuel W. Fisher.	

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

Oswego,		John E. Dutton.
Utica,	George I. King,	Milton Brayton.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

Geneva,	Ira Ingraham.	
Cortland,	Hercules R. Dunham.	
Chemung,		Simeon Benjamin.
Pennsylvania,	Elijah D. Wells.	[136]

IV. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

Genesee,	John B. Preston.
Buffalo,	Levi A. Skinner.
Angelica,	Charles Crocker.

V. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

Hudson.		Theo. L. Jackson.
New York, 3d,	Edwin F. Hatfield,	John L. Mason, Esq.
New York, 4th,	Charles H. Read.	
Brooklyn,	Samuel H. Cox, D. D.	
Montrose,	Henry A. Rowland.	

VI. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Wilmington,	E. W. Gilbert, D. D.	
Philadelphia, 4th,	James P. Wilson.	
Harrisburg,	Franklin D. Harris.	

VII. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

Meadville,	Richard Craighead.	
Pittsburgh,	Samuel M. Sparks.	

VIII. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

Grand River,	Dexter Witter.	
Trumbull,	Benjamin Fenn,	Chester Andrews.
Cleveland,	Cyrus L. Watson.	

IX. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

Detroit,	George Duffield, D. D.,	Eurotas P. Hastings.
St. Joseph,	Alfred Bryant.	
Monroe,	E. N. Nichols,	Charles Noble.
Washtenaw,	Elijah P. Marvin.	

X. SYNOD OF OHIO.

Athens,	Lucian C. Ford,	Silvanus Bartlett.
Licking,	Charles M. Putnam,	James Young.
Marion,	James Rowland,	J. W. Thompson.
Scioto,	Joseph Chester,	Richard Long.
Tuscarawas,	Addison Kingsbury.	

XI. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

Cincinnati,	Calvin E. Stowe, D. D.,	Jno. C. Macy.
Dayton,	William Gray,	J. M. Skinner.
Hamilton,	Horace Bushnell,	William Carey.

XII. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

Salem,	James Brownlee,	William C. Connor.
Madison,	John M. Dickey.	
Crawfordsville,	James H. Johnston,	James L. Allen.
Indianapolis,		William H. Wishard.
Logansport,	Joseph G. Wilson,	[137]
La Porte,	Samuel N. Steel.	
Fort Wayne,	Alexander Lemon.	
Evansville,	Samuel K. Sneed,	Hon. Wm. Olmsted.

XIII. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

Illinois,	Albert Hale.
Alton,	Robert Stewart.
Des Moines,	John M. Boal.

XIV. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

Peoria,	Henry G. Pendleton.
Knox,	Solomon S. Miles.

XV. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
St. Louis,	James B. Townsend.	
Lexington,	Tapping S. Reeve.	

XVI. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

Winchester,	Andrew H. H. Boyd,	William D. Gilkeson.
Dist. of Columbia,	William McLain.	

XVII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

Union,	Gideon S. White,	Daniel Meek.

XVIII. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

Harmony,	Eliphaz P. Pratt,	J. R. Thornton.
Providence,	George W. Kennedy.	
Green River,	Alexander W. Campbell.	

XIX. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

Shiloh,	Alfred H. Dashiell.
North Alabama,	Conway P. Wing.

XX. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

General Synod of the Ger. Ref. Church, Rev. George Glessner.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following Commissioners as duly accredited, and their names were added to the Roll, viz.:

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Union,		Daniel Meek.
Genesee,	John B. Preston.	
Fort Wayne,	Alexander Lemon.	
Angelica,	Charles Crocker.	
Cincinnati,	Calvin E. Stowe, D. D.,	John C. Macy.
Harrisburg,	Franklin D. Harris.	
Evansville, (new)	Samuel K. Sneed,	Hon. Wm. Olmsted.
Tuscarawas,	Addison Kingsbury.	
Harmony,		John R. Thornton.
Scioto,		Richard Long.
Dayton,	William Gray,	J. M. Skinner. [138]
Salem,		Wm. C. Connor.
Winchester,	Andrew H. H. Boyd,	Wm. D. Gilkeson.
Utica,	George I. King,	Milton Brayton.
Monroe,	E. N. Nichols,	Charles Noble.
Detroit,		Eurotas P. Hastings.
Washtenaw,	Elijah P. Marvin.	
Shiloh,	Alfred H. Dashiell.	
Hamilton,	Horace Bushnell,	Wm. Carey.

The Rev. George Glessner, a Delegate from the German Reformed Church, presented his credentials, and was received as a Corresponding Member.

On motion, the Rev. H. H. Rowland, G. Duffield, D. D., Rev. J. P. Wilson, and Messrs. T. L. Jackson and Wm. Carey, were appointed a *Committee*

to report *on the Constitutionality and Powers of the Assembly* as now convened.

A communication was received from Prof. O. M. Mitchel, inviting the Assembly to visit the Cincinnati Observatory. The invitation was cordially accepted; and the Stated Clerk was directed to inform Prof. Mitchel, that the Assembly will be happy to visit the Observatory on Monday next at 5 o'clock, P. M.

The following communications were received and referred, viz.:

A letter from the Rev. Justin Edwards, D. D., in reference to the sanctification of the Sabbath, and the promotion of Temperance; which was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures:

A communication from the Presbytery of Palestine on the powers of the Assembly, which was referred to the same committee:

A memorial from the Presbytery of Cincinnati, on the powers of the Assembly, which was referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church:

A memorial from the Presbytery of Indianapolis, on a new edition of the Standards, which was referred to the same Committee:

A memorial from the Presbytery of Hamilton, on the subject of Slavery, which was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 21st, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners:

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
Licking,	Charles M. Putnam.	
Knox,	Solomon S. Miles.	
Athens,	Lucian C. Ford.	
Trumbull,	Benjamin Fenn,	Chester Andrews. [139]

A memorial from some members of the church of Jersey, Licking co., Ohio, on the subject of Slavery, was received and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

Also, a communication from Rev. B. F. Teft, inviting the Assembly to supply the Wesley chapel with preaching on Sabbath next; which was referred to the Committee of Arrangements.

The Rev. C. H. Read, moved that the action of the Assembly be confined to the unfinished business on the docket in June, 1846.

After some discussion, his motion was postponed with a view to hear the report of the Committee on the Constitutionality and Powers of the Assembly.

Rev. H. A. Rowland, from that Committee, presented a report, which was accepted.

The Moderator informed the Assembly, that in company with the Stated Clerk, he had waited upon Chancellor Kent, of New York, and obtained his opinion in respect to the constitutionality of the adjournment; a copy of which he presented at the request of the Assembly.

This opinion was read, and was ordered to be incorporated with the preceding report.

It was then moved, that 250 copies of the above report be printed for the use of the Assembly.

It was then moved to postpone the motion to print, with a view to take up the report itself, which was carried, and the consideration of the report was resumed.

It was then moved, that the first resolution of the report be adopted.

The motion to print was then renewed, and, after some discussion while the question was pending, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, 3 *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. Tapping S. Reeve, a Commissioner from the Presbytery of Lexington, Mo., appeared and took his seat.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz.: the motion to print the report of the Committee on the Adjournment, was resumed; and, after some further discussion, the motion was carried.

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Stated Clerk was appointed receiver of any moneys intended for the Contingent Fund of the General Assembly.

Messrs. Wm. Olmsted, John C. Macy, and E. P. Hastings, were appointed a *Committee on Mileage*.

Rev. C. P. Wing, from the Committee on Correspondence with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, made a report, recommending the adoption of a plan of correspondence with that body.

The report was accepted; and, after some discussion, it was *Re-* [140] *solved*, that, for the sake of more definite information in reference to our brethren of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; for the clearer ascertainment of the wishes of our own churches in reference to this union; and also, for the sake of securing the action of a larger Assembly, this whole matter be recommitted to the same Committee, with instructions to report to the next Assembly. And that Rev. Messrs. J. M. Dickey, J. B. Townsend, Cyrus L. Watson, D. H. Riddle, D. D., and G. Duffield, D. D., be added to the Committee.

A memorial from the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, on the subject of Home-Missions, was presented, and referred to Messrs. S. M. Sneed, C. Stowe, D. D., and J. M. Dickey, to consider and report.

Resolved, to hold an interlocutory meeting to-morrow, at 10 o'clock, A. M., with reference to the state of the churches in the West.

Rev. G. Duffield, D. D., from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported, recommending the adoption of the following resolution:—

"*Whereas*, there have been various public discussions of late, relative to the authenticity of certain provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., so as to excite doubt to some extent as to the correctness of the recently published edition of the Book of Discipline and Form of Government—

"Therefore, *Resolved*, that a Committee of eight be appointed to investigate and report in detail the entire history of the provisions of the Assembly, and the Presbyteries, and the Committee *ad interim*, in reference to the elementary and verbal alterations in the Constitution of the Church."

Before the question was decided, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 22d, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The usual time was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. C. E. Stowe, D. D., H. A. Rowland, and L. A. Skinner, with Mr. E. P. Hastings, were added to the Committee on *Church Polity.*

Rev. Messrs. Wm. McLain, H. Bushnell, and E. P. Pratt, with Messrs. J. R. Thornton and S. Benjamin, were added to the Committee on *Bills and Overtures.*

The Rev. C. H. Read, from the Committee on Devotional Exercises, presented a report, which was adopted, recommending that the Assembly unite in the celebration of the Lord's Supper in this house to-morrow, at 3 o'clock, P. M.; that the Moderator preside and invoke the divine blessing.

Reading the Scriptures and Hymn by Rev. Ira Ingraham;
Address on the Nature of the Ordinance, by Rev. John M. Dickey.
Administration of the Bread, ... " Rev. G. Duffield, D. D.
" " Cup, ... " Rev. A. H. H. Boyd.
Concluding Address, ... " Rev. J. B. Townsend.
Hymn and Benediction, ... " Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D. [141]

A memorial from the Presbytery of Des Moines, on the subject of Slavery, was received and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

Also, memorials from the Presbyteries of Washtenaw and St. Joseph, complaining of certain proceedings of the Synod of Michigan, which were referred to the same Committee.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz.: the consideration of the Resolution from the Committee of Bills and Overtures, was resumed.

The motion for the appointment of a *Committee on the Revision of the Standards* was carried; and Rev. Messrs. E. F. Hatfield, G. Duffield, D. D., H. A. Rowland, S. W. Fisher, and R. Craighead, with Messrs. John L. Mason, Simeon Benjamin, and E. P. Hastings, were appointed that Committee.

The Committee on Home-Missions reported in part, and were continued.

The Assembly then resolved itself into an interlocutory meeting, on the state of the churches in the West. At 12 o'clock the meeting dissolved, and the Assembly resumed business.

The report of the Committee on the memorial of the Rev. T. A. Mills, was referred back to the same Committee, with instructions to mature and propose to the Assembly some plan for carrying out the suggestions contained in the memorial.

The subject of Home-Missions was made the order of the day for Monday, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Rev. G. Duffield, D. D., from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported the following resolutions which were adopted:

1. *Resolved*, that the Assembly recommend for general circulation among the families belonging to our churches, the *Manuals* which have been prepared by the Rev. J. Edwards, D. D., on the subjects of Temperance and the Sabbath.

2. *Resolved*, that the Rev. D. Gibbs, agent of the American Protestant Society, be heard for ten minutes, on Monday afternoon, immediately after the commencement of the session.

The Committee further recommended that certain memorials referred to them, relating to matters that have originated since the meeting in Philadelphia, be returned; and their recommendation was adopted.

Leave was given to the Rev. O. S. Powell to address the Assembly in reference to the sanctification of the Sabbath; but Mr. Powell was not present.

An invitation to attend a meeting of the Female Protestant Society at 3 o'clock, P. M., was received and accepted.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that Mr. Wm. D. Gilkeson had obtained leave of absence from the remaining sessions of this body.

Adjourned until Monday at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [142]

Lord's Day, May 23d, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, according to previous arrangement, in the Second Presbyterian church, and united with their Christian brethren in the celebration of the Lord's Supper, when the several parts of the service were performed, agreeably to previous order.

Monday, May 24th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. The Clerks were directed to procure the printing of 250 copies of the Roll.

The Rev. John M. Dickey, from the Committee on Church Polity, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

That certain papers have been put into their hands, relating to alleged alterations of the Constitution; and that, inasmuch as a Special Committee has been charged with the consideration of this subject, they recommend that these papers be committed to that Committee. And they furthermore would express to the Assembly their unanimous opinion, that said Committee should recommend, at the present sessions of the Assembly, all such alterations as may properly be overtured to the Presbyteries for their action, and which may reduce our Constitutional Rules to a compact and uniform system, and relieve the churches from unsettled views on the subject, so soon as it is practicable with wisdom to be done.

The Rev. George I. King presented a request of the Rev. Selden Haynes, that a clerical error in the Minutes of the proceedings of this Assembly at its sessions in Philadelphia, in recording his vote on page 33 of the printed Minutes, might be corrected. He is there represented as voting "*non liquet;*" whereas he declined to vote at all, on the ground that the Assembly, in his opinion, had no jurisdiction in the case. Not being present in the Assembly after that vote was taken, he had no opportunity of learning and correcting the error. The request of Mr. Haynes was granted, and the Clerk was directed to make the correction.

The Moderator, from the Committee appointed to prepare a letter to the Free Church of Scotland, presented a report, which was accepted, and, having been amended, was adopted, and ordered to be forwarded, with a copy of the Minutes of the present Assembly.

At 11 o'clock the Assembly took up the order of the day, and resolved itself into an interlocutory meeting on the subject of Home-Missions, to continue one hour. At 12 o'clock the Assembly resumed business.

A memorial from the Rev. William Graham was presented and read. Whereupon it was *Resolved*, that in the judgment of this Assembly the consideration of the subject presented in the memorial of Mr. Graham properly comes before the next Assembly; and that Mr. Graham have leave to withdraw his memorial.

The choice of a place for the meeting of the next General Assembly was

made the order of the day for this afternoon. Cincinnati, New York, Philadelphia, Detroit and Buffalo were put in nomination. [143]

After which the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, 3 *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Roll was called, and Philadelphia was chosen as the place of the meeting of the next Assembly.

The Rev. D. Gibbs, agent of the American Protestant Society, was heard, agreeably to previous appointment, in a short address. After which the subject was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures, with instructions to bring in resolutions in favor of that Society.

The subject of appointing a Day of Prayer for all our churches in reference to a National Peace, was referred to the same Committee.

The Assembly agreed to hear a report from the Rev. S. H. Cox, D. D., Rev. L. Beecher, D. D., and R. D. Mussey, M. D., on the subject of the Evangelical Alliance, at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Rev. S. K. Sneed, from the committee to whom was referred the memorial of Mr. Mills, made a report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Rev. Messrs. Thornton A. Mills, A. S. Norton, John M. Dickey, Henry Little, C. P. Wing and T. Cleland, D. D., were appointed a *Standing Committee on Home-Missions*, under the foregoing resolution.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, *May* 25*th*, 1847, 9 *o'clock*, *A. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. John M. Dickey offered the following resolution: "*Whereas* there is difference of opinion in the Presbyterian Church respecting the powers of our church courts in reference to Slave-holding; and *whereas* three Synods respectfully requested this Assembly, at its sessions last year, to send down to the Presbyteries an overture on this subject; therefore, *Resolved*, that the following overture be sent down to the Presbyteries for their action, viz.: "Shall the word 'Slave-holding' be inserted after the word 'Man-stealing' in the answer to the 142d Question of the Larger Catechism, among the sins forbidden in the Eighth Commandment?"

The Moderator decided, that, as the memorials from these Synods had been already acted upon, the motion was out of order unless that action was first re-considered by a vote of two-thirds. See General Rules, 17.

From this decision the Rev. H. Bushnell appealed; and the question being put, the chair was sustained.

The Rev. Joseph Chester moved that the Committee on Bills and Overtures be instructed to bring in a report on the memorials commit[144]ted to them on the subject of Slavery. The Moderator decided that this motion was out of order.

The Rev. Wm. McLain, from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported the following resolutions, which were adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That we deeply sympathize in the various efforts which are now being made for the spread of the principles of the Protestant Reforma-

tion: and that we cordially commend to our churches the various Societies engaged in the work.

2. *Resolved*, That we recommend to the churches to guard well the rising generation against the insidious approaches of the Man of Sin, and to educate them thoroughly in the principles of Protestantism.

3. *Resolved*, That we recommend to all agents of these societies and ministers preaching on the subject, to avoid all denunciation, and to speak the truth in love.

The Rev. E. F. Hatfield, from the Committee on Revision of the Standards, made a report, which was accepted, and ordered to be printed for the use of the house.

At 10½ o'clock, the Assembly resolved itself into an interlocutory meeting on the subject of the "Evangelical Alliance," when the Rev. Drs. S. H. Cox and L. Beecher were heard. At 12½ o'clock, the meeting rose, and the Assembly resumed business.

The consideration of the report of the Committee on the Constitutionality and Powers of the Assembly as now convened was made the order of the day for this afternoon.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Rev. Messrs. J. B. Townsend and J. Rowland, with Mr. T. L. Jackson, were appointed a Committee to Ascertain and Provide for the Expenses of the Present Sessions of the Assembly.

The consideration of the report on the Constitutionality and Powers of the Assembly came up as the order of the day. The Rev. Wm. McLain moved the indefinite postponement of the whole subject, except so much as refers to the opinion of Chancellor Kent.

The motion was lost.

The whole subject was then re-committed to a special Committee, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. C. H. Read, C. Stowe, D. D., S. W. Fisher, and H. A. Rowland.

The Stated Clerk reported, "That he had effected a contract with the proprietor and publishers of the *Church-Psalmist*, by which they bind themselves, so long as the Assembly continue to approve of the *Church-Psalmist* as the authorized psalmody of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, to pay to the Treasurer of the General Assembly one hundred dollars per year, on the circulation as it now is (rated at 10,000 copies per year,) and an increased sum at the same [145] rate on every increase of the annual circulation, and the reverse;" and the report was adopted.

A copy of a new edition of the Church-Psalmist, in large type, suited to the pulpit and the aged, was presented to the Assembly by the Stated Clerk, in behalf of the publishers, which was gratefully accepted.

A memorial in reference to a new boundary line between the Synods of Indiana and Michigan, which had been presented to the Assembly in May last, was, on motion of the Rev. S. N. Steel, taken up for consideration.

The subject was referred to the Rev. Messrs. N. Kellogg, S. N. Steel, and A. Bryant, with Messrs. J. W. Cunningham and John J. Deming, with instructions to report to the next Assembly.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been given to Messrs. J. L. Mason, C. Noble, F. D. Harris, C. P. Wing, and J. E. Dutton.

An assessment of fifty cents on each member was made, to meet the expenses of the present sessions of the Assembly.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 26th, 8 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion of the Rev. George I. King, it was *Resolved*, that it be recommended to our churches to observe the second Sabbath of July next as a Day of Prayer, in view of the war now existing between this government and that of Mexico; and that our ministers be requested to preach, on that day, a sermon on the subject of Peace.

The Committee on the "Digest," not having reported, were discharged, and the subject was referred to the Committee on the Revision of the Standards, with instructions to report on the subject to the next Assembly.

The bills for printing and for janitor's services, amounting in all to $27, were presented, and ordered to be paid. The Rev. J. B. Townsend reported that $29.45 had been collected from the members of the Assembly. *Ordered*, that the balance be paid over to the Contingent Fund of the Assembly.

The Committee on "Doctrinal Tracts," appointed in May last, made a report, which was accepted, and, after some discussion, the whole subject was referred to a Committee, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. E. F. Hatfield, S. H. Cox, D. D., E. Mason, D. D., C. E. Stowe, D. D., and Joel Parker, D. D., with instructions to report to the next Assembly.

The Rev. S. W. Fisher, from the Committee to whom was referred the report on the Constitutionality and Powers of the Assembly, made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows: [146]

The Committee, to whom the report on the powers of the General Assembly was referred, respectfully represent: that the adjournment of the Assembly, to meet in this place, has given rise to various questions, in the inferior judicatories, touching its constitutionality and expediency. It seems, to your Committee, due to the character of this the supreme judicatory of our Church, that the grounds, on which the adjournment was made, should be distinctly spread out before the churches. We are satisfied to rest the constitutionality of our act upon the impartial and lucid exposition of the Constitution appended to this report. We are sure, that this opinion of one of the most illustrious interpreters of parliamentary law in America or Britain will have great weight, if not in convincing our fathers and brethren of the constitutionality of our proceeding, at least in evincing to them, that we have not acted without the apparent, and as we believe, the entire and real, sanction of the fundamental law, by which this body is bound, in common with the inferior judicatories.

Some of the reasons, however, which rendered the adjournment expedient, in our judgment, are not to be found on record; and it becomes necessary for us to state them briefly, before the Assembly is dissolved.

By the protracted discussion of the subject of Slavery, business of vast importance to the prosperity of our Church, especially at the West, was left totally unfinished and unattempted. In the absence of an annual Assembly, our Church has been left for a longer time than formerly without the visible bond of unity, and without the frequent supervision and control, of the highest judicatory. During this long period, it was not surprising that the churches at the West, in all stages of existence, among a heterogeneous and rapidly-increasing population, should feel the want of the presence and the

wisdom of the General Assembly, both to attract around a common centre these diverse elements, and to devise plans for the extension and consolidation of our branch of the Church through the waste places of these States. The Assembly listened to the urgent representations of those most conversant with this vast field, and felt that it was impossible, after having entered upon the third week of our sessions at Philadelphia, to take up and dispose of this wide subject. Should it have dissolved, and left these subjects of vital importance unattended to for three years more? Should it have dissolved, while much important business of the session remained unfinished—business which, in the opinion of many entitled to belief, must be done soon, or it would be wholly beyond our power ever to do it?

It was in view of these representations; to accomplish the very work for our Western churches for which we were commissioned; and which not to do would have been, in our view, culpable neglect of our appropriate mission, that the Assembly resolved to adjourn to this city. And since, in pursuance of this adjournment, we have visited this new world, the importance of a full investigation of the state of our churches,—of the Assembly as a visible bond of unity,—and the necessity of wisely-formed plans for the extension of religion and the [147] education of a learned ministry, have become more manifest. Deeply as we regret the feelings to which the adjournment has given rise, among some of the most respected and venerable of our fathers and brethren in the ministry, yet, aside from that fact, we are more than ever persuaded of the wisdom of the act that brought us hither. Had the Assembly been permitted to meet here in its original integrity; had the representation been full; and no untoward influence been brought to disparage this meeting and impair its moral power, the good effects of its sessions in this city might have been greatly enhanced.

The Committee further express the hope, that the records of this adjourned meeting, together with its happy effects upon the whole Church, and especially upon the interests of the Western branch of it, whose position and relations at this time are so important to us and the world, will show that the adjournment has resulted in many great and practical benefits.

The Committee conclude by referring to the

Opinion of Chancellor Kent, on the Constitutionality of the Adjournment of the General Assembly, to meet in Cincinnati, May, 1847.

Case.

The Rev. Dr. Cox has stated to me the following question of law, with a request for my opinion.

As the question is simply a dry legal question, touching the construction of an article in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church, and involves no other consideration, I do not feel myself at liberty to withhold my friendly aid as counsel, though I give my opinion with great respect and diffidence, considering the venerable Assembly to whose powers it relates.

The General Assembly meets triennially, and generally sits until formally dissolved. It met last year at Philadelphia, and, after a week and upwards of discussion, it adjourned until May, 1847, in Cincinnati. The question is: Had the General Assembly, under the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church, a lawful or rightful power so to adjourn?

Answer.

In my opinion, the power of adjournment rests in the sound discretion of

the General Assembly. I consider the power to be necessarily incident to every deliberative assembly, unless specially prohibited by its Charter or Constitution. It appertains of course to all legislative assemblies, and is occasionally exercised. This is the case with the English Parliament, and with the legislative assemblies in the United States.

The Constitution of the United States says, that Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and on the first Monday in December. The only inhibition in the Constitution is, that neither House [148] shall adjourn without the consent of the other, for more than three days, nor to any other place. The Constitution is silent as to any other adjournment, and yet no question has ever been raised as to the power of Congress or both Houses, concurrently to adjourn the session to a future time.

So, in the Constitution of New York, the legislative term begins on the first of January, and the Legislature are to assemble every year on the first Monday in January, and neither House, without the consent of the other, can adjourn for more than two days. No doubt is raised as to the competency of the two Houses jointly to adjourn in their discretion to any future or distant day, and though the Legislature are to meet as prescribed, and are, as to the Assembly, elected annually, it is now in contemplation, at the present session, to adjourn over to the month of September.

The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church leaves silently the same power of adjournment, precisely on the same footing of discretion. Thus the General Assembly are to meet at least triennially, or once in every third year. And the last Moderator, with the concurrence of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, may call a *pro re nata* meeting of the General Assembly, in case of any emergency, on four months' notice; and the Assembly is to be considered as the same with the previous one.

The adjournment preserves the identity of the Assembly. I have no doubt, that upon a sound construction of the Constitution, the General Assembly has the same analogous power as all other political legislative bodies to which I have alluded. If any greater restriction had been intended, it would have been expressed. The language quoted implies, as of course, a power of adjournment. It is a wise and necessary power to guard against calamities and overruling necessities, such as a desolating sickness, or conflagration, or insurrection, &c. It may be safely confided to such a representation, if anything may.

Even in ordinary civil corporations, where powers are granted very guardedly, and construed strictly, it is adjudged, that a corporation may transact any business at an adjourned meeting, which they might have transacted at the original meeting; (11 Vermont Reports, 385.)

For these reasons briefly, I conclude that the power of adjournment by the General Assembly the last year to Cincinnati was constitutional.

New York, April 19, 1847. JAMES KENT.

The Rev. H. A. Rowland made a minority report on the same subject, which was accepted.

The Assembly then took up the report of the Committee on the Revision of the Standards.

The Rev. George I. King moved the following resolution, which was adopted.

"*Whereas*, there is a doubt about the propriety of the forms of the overtures submitted to the Presbyteries by this Assembly, at its sessions in Philadelphia, therefore—*Resolved*, That the Presbyteries be requested to forward their reply to them in the following form: [149]

1. Shall Section 7th of Chapter XI., Form of Government, be altered so as to read "annually," instead of "triennially"?

2. Shall the first sentence of Section 7th of Chapter XII., Form of Government, be altered so as to read "The General Assembly shall meet at least once in every year," or shall it read, "The General Assembly shall meet at least once in every third year"?

3. Shall paragraph 2d of Chapter VII., Book of Discipline, be altered so as, after the word "Synod," to insert the words, "except in cases affecting the character of ministers of the Gospel"?

4. Shall paragraph 2d of Section III. of Chap. VII., Book of Discipline, be altered so as to prefix to it the words, "All appeals, except in cases affecting the character of ministers of the Gospel, shall terminate with the Synod; and"?

5. Shall paragraph 4th of Section IV. of Chapter VII., Book of Discipline, be altered so as to annex to it the words, "And all complaints shall terminate with the Synods, except in cases affecting the character of ministers of the Gospel"?

On motion of Rev. I. Ingraham, it was *Resolved*, unanimously, That in the judgment of this Assembly, the Constitution, as contained in the book which is now authenticated to the churches, is authoritative and binding, until it shall be regularly amended by proper Overtures submitted to the Presbyteries.

The remainder of the report on the revision of the Standards was recommitted, with instructions to report to the next Assembly.

Ordered, that the salaries of the Clerks be paid.

Mr. J. C. Macy, from the Committee on Mileage, reported that the sum of $40.25 had been received for the Commissioners' Fund, and that this sum had been equally distributed among the applicants. The report was adopted.

On motion of the Rev. C. H. Read, it was *Resolved*, unanimously. That the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the Moderator, for the ability, kindness and patience, with which he has presided over the deliberations of the Assembly.

Also, to the Trustees of the Second Presbyterian church of Cincinnati, for the liberal use of their house of worship during its session.

Also, to the Committee of Arrangements, for their kind provision for the comfort of the members on their arrival in this city.

And also, to the families of this city, who have so kindly and with such readiness extended to us their hospitality.

Ordered, that the Minutes be printed, under the direction of the Moderator and Clerks, and forwarded to the Presbyteries.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The whole business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for dissolving the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved; and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the First Presbyterian church of Philadelphia, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1849, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

E. W. GILBERT,
Permanent Clerk.

Cincinnati, May 26, 1847.

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON HOME-MISSIONS.

The Committee on the memorial of Rev. T. A. Mills beg leave to present the following report:

It was one object of the Assembly, in adjourning its sessions to Cincinnati, to consider the condition of the Western churches, and devise means for their enlargement. No subject of greater importance can be presented for the consideration of the Assembly. Here is a country of vast extent, possessing in its soil, climate, vegetable and mineral productions, rivers and lakes, all the natural facilities for very great advancement in wealth and influence; already containing a population three times as great as the thirteen colonies at the American Revolution, and increasing with a rapidity unparalleled in the annals of the world. If this population were homogeneous, and under the influence of the Gospel, there would be nothing calling peculiarly for the extra exertions of the Church. But unhappily this is not the fact. The people of the West are a mixed multitude, from almost every nation under heaven; embracing opinions as diverse as our nationality, with a great multitude who care nothing for the whole matter. It is a clear case, that the population, wealth and influence of this valley, will be great; and as clear that the wickedness of the people will be very destructive, unless they can be brought under the sanctifying influence of the Gospel. On the other hand, what an influence for good will this valley exert on the destinies of the world, if it can only be consecrated to the Lamb of God.

The question, then, what can be done to secure this valley for Christ, is one of the most momentous which can be presented to the consideration of American Christians. Happily for us, we are not left in the dark on the subject; and if the execution of our plans were as easy as their development, we should at once bring this whole population to the feet of the Saviour. The same Heaven-appointed means which have converted to Christ other nations, in other ages, will bring the population of this great valley to bow before him and own him Lord. What, then, is to be done? Let the Church have faith in Christ, and go forward with the work as he has appointed. Let the Church "Go and preach the Gospel to every creature" in this great valley.

But this is a great work, and implies, not only the instruction of the people in the whole Bible, but also that mental culture which never fails to result from thorough instruction in divine truth. Moral and mental culture are Christ's appointed means for the redemption of the world. This it was which subverted heathenism in the Roman empire of old; and has subverted it of late in the Sandwich Islands; and which is now regenerating the Armenians and Nestorians. The church, the college, and the humble school-house, under the direction of godly men, have been the glory and the redemption of Scotland, and of the land of the Pilgrims. Impressed with these views, the General Assembly would say to all their beloved people, "Go forward in this blessed work." And while they rejoice in the great good which has already been accomplished for the West, by a preached Gospel, in connection with the Bible, Missionary, Tract and Education Societies, by the Sabbath-school, the day-school, and the college, they feel it incumbent on them to call the attention of the churches to some points of special importance in the prosecution of this great work.

I. The first thing to be done is to improve, strengthen, and enlarge our existing congregations. Let every pastor, and session, and church, feel that they are a missionary body, established in the midst of the most important missionary field in the world, and the object of their vocation is to lead all around them to Christ.

To this end, let every congregation be thoroughly instructed in the knowledge of God's word. Let them be thoroughly grounded in the doctrines of grace. By means of the sermons of their pastors, Bible-classes, and catechetical exercises, let them be thoroughly instructed in the doctrines of the Bible as contained in our Standards; and thus, by thorough training, let them be prepared for thorough and efficient action. Let every one of our congregations, from the largest to the smallest, be formed into Bible-classes, and into classes for instruction in the Shorter Catechism. In addition to this, let all our congregations exert themselves to the utmost for the establishment and maintenance of a proper system of district-schools, in which their children can be trained, intellectually and morally, by worthy and competent teachers, on the principles of the Holy Scriptures; and, in places where such district-schools cannot be maintained, let the congregations employ pious teachers for their own children, who will make the Bible a school-Book, and will labor as earnestly for their salvation as for their advancement in knowledge. Let not the Church leave the precious interests of their children to ignorant and ungodly teachers.

II. In order to reach the destitute population, the General Assembly recommend to all our Presbyteries carefully to survey their whole territory, and apply to the Home-Missionary Society for one or more missionaries, who shall be employed in itinerating labors among the destitute. They also recommend, that special attention be directed to the foreign population; and that they be supplied with the ministrations of the gospel, as far as practicable, in their own language. To this end, they would recommend to the Presbyteries to make all suitable efforts, to introduce into the ministry young men of piety and suitable acquirements who speak the German language. As also that many of our young men be advised to study the German, in order that they may preach therein.

III. They would further recommend to all the Presbyteries, and especially in the West, to make renewed efforts to train up young men of piety and promise for the holy ministry. To all ministers of the Gospel who are without charge, or are laboring in secular pursuits, the General Assembly would say, "The harvest is perishing for want of laborers; enter in and reap, and you will receive your reward on high."

IV. Finally, the General Assembly deem it very important that small appropriations be made, judiciously and wisely, to aid feeble congregations in erecting houses of worship.

But, as it is impracticable for us to enter at present into the details of the matter—

Resolved, that a Committee of five from the Western Synods be appointed to consult and correspond on this and the other subjects embraced in this paper; and to present a detailed report to the next General Assembly, embodying the different plans tried by the Presbyteries which have proved most successful, and presenting such recommendations and suggestions as the whole subject may seem to require. [See p. 143.*]

* Reprint, p. 189.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, and the brethren members of the Assembly, wherever and whenever convened; wishing health and salvation;

Reverend and Honored Sirs—

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, being in session at this time, in the city of Cincinnati, State of Ohio, are happy to deem it one of their incumbent duties thus to address you, in the spirit of fraternal love and Christian confidence; evincing our desire, which we doubt not meets also your own, for an established epistolary and affectionate correspondence with you, as the representatives of an important and interesting portion of the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ. Some of our own brethren, honored and beloved, remember with great pleasure their Christian intercourse, during the last summer, as well as at other times, in London and other places, with several of your distinguished brethren and fathers, both laical and clerical; and their reports of your Christian benignity, your soundness in the faith, your courtesy, your constancy, your trials, and your promise of future usefulness in the cause and kingdom of our common adorable Master and Lord, operate only to fortify and increase our desire of such correspondence, and our augury of good only as its probable result.

We are, indeed, at this time, five thousand miles in geographical distance apart. The sun that rises to shed the glory of morning on the inhabitants of the British Isles, travels in his steady course six full hours—one-fourth of his diurnal rotation—before his beams salute the meridian of this city. And here we feel, as well as learn, what relative things are the associations of East and West, North and South. On the great Atlantic seaboard, where so many mighty rivers run from the summit of the Alleghanies eastward to the ocean, in unremitting and unchanging flow, and especially in any of those cities which bestud and decorate the coast, we are wont to call this a Western city, and the Queen City of the West, with a population of nearly 100,000 inhabitants. But our vast and rapidly increasing country extends west and south of this for some thousands of miles, to the great Pacific coast, and almost to the central isthmus of two vast continents, where other States and cities are soon to be created, probably, by the sovereign pleasure of Providence, till the West and the East become each a corresponding terminus and counterpart to the other.

Very different, therefore, honored and reverend brethren, of necessity, must our associations and the development of our physical and intellectual energies, in this country, be, from yours, in a territory however wealthy and populous, yet not so large as some one of our counties, the organized compartments of our now thirty, and ere long to be—if the Lord permit—our hundred States and Territories. We say not this in vainglory, or with any spirit of boasting, but because we desire that we may respectively and reciprocally appreciate each other. Our country is new, vast, wonderful; requiring appropriate and peculiar measures of beneficence, and having many mingled elements of evil in the rare compound of its national millions. But God has cast into it also the salt of his covenant, the truth and the grace that come by Jesus Christ. The antagonism of principles and interests between Christ and Christians, and Satan and his retainers, here, is maintained, on the part of the former, with a good degree of exemplary courage and conduct, and with that trust in God alone which anticipates from his resources the strength of battle and the joy of victory.

Our circumstances are very different from yours; and with us, as with you, they must modify, as well as influence, our duties and our efforts for the progress of the kingdom of Christ. They must also leave their impress on our characters. Hence arises much of the relative difference, that often mystifies towards each other the Christians of one from the Christians of another hemisphere. It is difficult often for men to comprehend any where, why other men, in a distant and a different place, should not see altogether as themselves do, and act altogether as themselves do. And hence it has not been the fortune or the prestige of the short-sighted, the ill-informed, the partial, the ignorant, or the prejudiced, nor sometimes even of the wise and the good, to apprehend or appreciate their own brethren, when separated from them, or estranged by any of the circumstantials of society, which are ever found not only to checker its surface, but also to affect considerably at least the visible forms of its character. We trust in God that we shall be found to each other such happy exceptions to this rule, in some sort, as those of a common faith, and a common polity, and a common hope in God, may be supposed at once capable of being, and obligated to seem and to act, in all their mutual relations and conduct. Circumstances and surfaces therefore apart, we are happy to salute you in the Lord, as our honored and dear brethren, for Jesus' sake, having with us one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism; and as being, in many subordinate ways, so related to us, as we also to you, requiring the expressions of our profound regard and affection, as to the ambassadors of God, the legitimate bishops of His Church, and the representatives of a learned and a time-honored section of his heritage. We have read your history, we have measured your territories, we have enjoyed your literature, we have studied your theology, we have sympathized with you in the recent disruption, and we feel toward you, reverend and beloved fathers and brethren, much of that filial respect and love which is due from us to our esteemed seniors in the land of our sires.

It is remarkable, in the providence of God, that a rupture and a schism in the great Presbyterian body of this country and of Scotland, should have occurred so nearly simultaneously both here and there. Presbyterians now with us are mainly two denominations; so are they also with you; and whatever are the causes that induced the separation here, while we mourn the mischief it has occasioned, we claim to have had towards it only or mainly a passive relation. Measures fundamentally unconstitutional were originated and enacted by a small majority in the Assembly of 1837, and made afterward "the basis" and the test of individual adhesion, or of prompt disownment and *ipso facto* exclusion. We have no desire at this time to uncover in detail the merits of the controversy, but only to allege, that in our circumstances we were morally necessitated to meet the latter alternative; and this we did, by rejecting the new basis, by denying the improper test, and by adhering to the Constitution in its whole integrity, against the explosive acts that had so far prevailed to supersede its jurisdiction. We, adhering to the Constitution while others adhered to the new basis, were necessitated to see our brethren of the latter party, in May, 1838, constituting another General Assembly with the same name as our own; and since that period the two Assemblies have proceeded distinctly, each in its own relations, and in the main, we hope, with some diminution, at present, of the acrimony that characterized the commencement of the separation. We indeed judged it duty to appeal to Cæsar for our chartered rights in respect to ecclesiastical property and the establishment of our own identity in law. The case was fully tried on its merits, and the verdict of the jury, as well as the luminous charge and analysis of the honorable court, gave the

decision unanimously and promptly in our favor. Our brethren, however, invoked the appellate jurisdiction of the Superior Court, on a motion for a new trial; and there, where the merits of the case were not tried, nor known, nor admissible, nor properly related to the issue, which was wholly new and different, five judges constituting said court, the motion was strangely, and as we have often said, with some of the best and most learned jurists in the country, fallaciously and with astonishing mistake, affirmed, by a vote of three to two of those judges; or rather, two to one, as only three officiated in the decision. This decision gives them, *pro tempore*, the continued possession, while it encumbers our way, and greatly prejudices our rights, in the prosecution of a new trial. We have therefore suffered the matter to rest for the present, with the reserve of the right to proceed whenever it may seem desirable and proper.

Great, however, is our aversion to all such litigations; and great it would be, even if assured as much of our success, as we are that the merits of the case are with us and not with our brethren. In all subordinate litigations, and several have occurred hitherto in reference to the ownership of particular church properties, where the merits of the question have come into legal investigation and review, the tribunals of justice in our country, have uniformly, so far as we have ever known, and without a single exception, reached the same result. These are facts; and we state them, not that we may involve or influence you to join with us and take our part in the controversy, but that you may at least see our position and know our views of the case. The end is not yet. We have not excluded them; we can forgive their wrongs; we desire peace and fraternal amity, on Christian principles; but we do not relinquish the righteousness of our cause, nor can we forget the perpetrated injuries they have done us, or the damage resulting to the cause of all we love as Presbyterians from the consequences of their exscinding measures, and the strange "basis" thus constituted that caused the separation.

True indeed, our brethren of the annual Assembly, or rather some few in connection with them, in this vicinity, are again agitating the members and the ministers of our now unhappily twain denominations. A suit of a strange and incredible character has been lately originated before the Supreme Court of the State of Ohio, in reference to the possession and proprietary relations of our Theological Institution in the vicinage of this city, Lane Seminary, the presidency of which is now ably occupied by our venerable friend and father, the Rev. Doctor Lyman Beecher, in conjunction with an able Faculty. What will be the result of this attempt to alienate the funds and the ownership of this our own cherished and beloved school of the prophets, in this great and needy valley of the West, we know not. There is such a proverbially "glorious uncertainty of the law," and yet such a hope in favor of equity and possession when their claim is combined, and when an independent court and an impartial jury concurrently pass on the righteousness of the case, that while we profess not to know, and may not therefore predict the result, we feel tranquil in the prospect. Still, it would be quite inequitable and even calumnious to mention this, as we do not, to inculpate our brethren collectively of the other Assembly. They and their churches are generally innocent in this transaction. Their judicatories have refused all recognition and counsel in the matter. Many of their wisest and best advisers and fathers, as well as worthy members and ministers of less distinction, approve it not at all; and we hope in God, who knows how to worry and countervail the officious wisdom of Ahithophel, that no issue may be reached that will either violate equity, or bequeath to our successors

an occasion of lasting animosity and bitterness, when we and its present actors shall have passed to the world of spirits.

Still, we deplore the schism, as disastrous to our common interests as Protestants and as Presbyterians. It has comforted and edified the proud and false pretensions of prelacy, both Roman and Anglo-American. It has in some quarters detached, from the Presbyterian platform and sympathy, a crowded emigration to the exulting and welcoming patrons of the Episcopal monopoly. It has disparaged and dishonored the excellent principles of our common polity, in the eyes of unintelligent thousands, to whom its coincidence with Scripture, and the sublimity of its divine warrant, were not palpable, or credible, or demonstrable even, for its vindication. In the mean time, the papacy also has made capital of our inglorious dissensions. The infidel has scoffed, the Socinian has chuckled, the heretic has rejoiced, and the visionary, and the schismatic, and the radical, and the destructive, have gloried together, in the fancied discomfiture of truth and order, with their sanctions, their interests, and their allies. Thus has the kingdom of heaven suffered by our severance. And why was it? We believe before God, that no adequate causes existed to justify it. Our differences in theology, when not over-estimated, when scriptural realities are distinguished from philosophic subtilties, and when the substance of our common faith is justly discriminated from the variant forms, in which our variant degrees of skill in the word of righteousness are wont to explain or to enforce or to defend it; our differences were not fundamental, were not singular or novel or wonderful, and they were not properly intolerable or incapable of reconciliation. If, however, the reverse is alleged, as it was often by some in the heat of partisan warfare and the stimulation of debate, we could easily show in reply these two other things, which are much more certain and quite incontrovertible; namely, first, that the same things existed before, and with little diversity of form, in our beloved Church for more than a century; and second, that precisely the same elements of speculative and didactic difference exist at this moment among themselves, unredressed and immedicable, by such means, and perhaps by any others in the potentiality of man. We abide however, by our former averment; and believe that no denomination beside in Christendom, that was so large and so circumstanced—if this were possible—was at once more orthodox, more united, or more potential, as a whole, than was our regretted Presbyterian Church; before it was so violently bisected and dishonored; never, we fear, to be reinstated in its organic integrity and unity and glory. But Jehovah reigns.

With the Constitution of our Church, doctrinal and governmental, we are cordially satisfied. The former we have not changed in a single particle; yet in respect to our polity we have made two changes, namely, that the Assembly should meet triennially instead of annually, and that the appellate jurisdiction of our Church should be restricted to the Synods as Provincial Assemblies, and of consequence be withdrawn from the powers of the General Assemblies. We know that busy fame has invented and spread another version of the matter, although it may not have reached you.

> Monstrum horrendum, ingens; cui quot sunt corpore plumæ,
> Tot vigiles oculi subter, mirabile dictu!
> Tot linguæ, totidem ora sonant, tot subrigit aures.

Some have circulated the calumny that we were altering also our doctrinal standards, or the manner in which we "solemnly receive and adopt" them individually, when entering our official relations in the Church. It is all fallacy and mistake. No foundation was ever laid for the allegation with us,

more than with our brethren; and we make this statement also that our real status may be known from ourselves in this communication.

Happy as we are, reverend and beloved fathers and brethren in the Lord, to maintain with you a regular correspondence, we desire that its fruits to us and you may be pleasure not only, but mutual profit also and advantage. One source of this will ever be found, we think, in the interchange of correct information between us; touching our ecclesiastical statistics, our views of truth and duty, on any practical questions, as evolved in the providence of God, occasionally or continually, in connection with the defence of the Gospel, and the ever-changing phases and sinuosities and impertinences of error; or our relations to the civil power, to popery, to the world, to the cause of missions, to the interests of education, to the progress of civil liberty, to the prospects of society, and indeed to any one of the allied departments, directly or indirectly related, of the Church of Christ and the prosperity of the kingdom of God. And, if on any topic we may chance to entertain views of some variety or dissidence, we shall not on that account the less value our proposed epistolary and fraternal intercourse. Write to us, as we will to you, in the spirit of upright and magnanimous brotherhood, freely, fully, fearlessly, on any theme, sentiment, or occasion; and, by the grace of God, *ἀληθεύοντες δὲ ἐν ἀγάπῃ*, we may so benefit reciprocally our spiritual and ecclesiastical interests, as to afford another and an excellent illustration of the inspired way of mutual edification; "growing up into Him in all things, who is the Head, even Christ; from whom the whole body, fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body to the edifying of itself in love."

The General Assembly of our Church at present includes twenty Synods, embracing 105 Presbyteries, composed of about 1500 ministers, and having under our care nearly 200 licentiates, and 1600 churches, comprising about 150,000 communicants, some hundreds of them candidates, in various stages of preparation, for the office of the Christian ministry. We are surrounded, indeed, in this free republic, with all forms and varieties of theological doctrine and ecclesiastical polity; but we are happy to believe that our own cherished Church has been ever exemplary in this land for its stability, its piety, its learning, its usefulness, its institutions, and its measures of aggressive benevolence. The Presbyterian Church of this country, whose history dates from about 1670, or near the time of the great Revolution in our then common empire, ultimately fixing the present house regnant on the British throne, has ever led the way, in this great world of the West, conjointly with our orthodox congregational brethren of New England, in sustaining a noble testimony, and a nobler example too, in favor of a pious and learned Christian ministry, providing the means of Christian education, founding and fostering colleges and theological seminaries, and promoting domestic missions and the extension of the means of grace through all our borders. In the progress of society and the improvements in science and the arts, which distinguish the age and adorn our country, we have not been unmindful of the duty of advancing proportionately in the elevation, as well as the maintenance, of the standard of ministerial education.

That department of official qualification, which traces theology to its sources in the inspired originals of the Holy Scriptures, and which accomplishes our pastors as men of God, thoroughly furnished for every good work, as durable and practical and scriptural preachers, has become increasingly honored and patronized and cultivated through all our Church; though we regard it as by no means having reached the culmination or the consum-

mation to which it is legitimately destined. To this enlightened system of ministerial furniture and competency, we have indeed been necessitated by the pressures of the times and the circumstances of our existence. A learned and faithful preacher, skilled and rich in the knowledge of the Hebrew and the Greek documents of inspiration, well read in the history of the sacred canon and the classification of manuscripts, and competent in all questions relative to the integrity of the sacred text, and the grammatical and hermeneutical science as related to it, as well as conversant and profound in systematic, polemic, casuistic, and didactic theology; such a preacher, when equally pious and sincere, wields a power incomparable, which secures his influence, edifies the Church, and puts to flight the armies of the aliens, in a masterly and intelligible way: and under God, we have no other influences so potential at our command, as comparatively we desire none other, on which to invoke his blessing, as we use them, hoping for victory in the cause of truth and righteousness.

And now, reverend and honored sirs and dear brethren, we request you to pray for us, that God may in all things lead us right. We invoke also your counsel and correspondence in the free spirit of the Gospel, as properly germane to the Free Church of Scotland. In your freedom we greatly rejoice, from the low-born and cringing spirit of Erastianism, as well as from the pseudo-protestant and crypto-roman discoveries and impositions of Tractarianism. The latter evil has more periled our country—the former, yours; both of them we regard as fallacious, insidious, and antichristian. But, while we view them and other evils as very hostile to the true interests of the kingdom of Christ, we feel that the only best way in which for us to endeavor their due prevention or their final extirmination, is—to preach every where the Gospel, the whole Gospel, and nothing but the Gospel, and by our own coincident example to show to them a more excellent way, walking in the light of the Lord.

On the subject of Slavery, as it continues in the Southern States of this great national confederation, and as, in those sections of our Church, its contact with some of our members—only a relative paucity of them—still continues, the General Assembly, while they deplore the evil, and desire, under the guidance of that wisdom which is profitable to direct, as well and as effectually as they can, to subserve its entire removal from our borders, would respectfully refer our North-British brethren to the accompanying Minutes of our proceedings at Philadelphia last year, as a demonstration that we are by no means indifferent or inactive in regard to it. We have received your representation and remonstrance in the spirit that dictated it. We know your principles and your motives, appreciating their philanthropy and honoring their faithfulness. Still, our relations to the evil as it here exists, our duties in regard to it, our convictions of what is wise and proper, as contradistinguished from their opposites—which are in this country rife and mischievous alone—in reference to ecclesiastical action of a specific character for its redress; on these and all kindred topics of a practical nature respecting Slavery in this country, we must conceive that our own knowledge of the existing state and complications of the question, and in view of the short-sighted and infidel extravagances of too many anti-slavery champions, is considerably superior to any which could be imparted by distant strangers, however well-intentioned and properly influenced. Brethren, pray for us, that we may know and do all our duty, and write to us continually, as you see the fitting occasion, for our edification and improvement.

On another subject, that of Temperance, as related to the recent reforma-

tion and the œcumenical enterprise that anticipates its universal triumph, you will allow us also to say a word, in a kindred fraternal spirit, to you. The evil which it is its object to exterminate, we view with great and full conviction as in many respects worse than Slavery itself; being more consistent with refinement, with plausibility, and with good-looking palliatives; while it is in itself insidious, progressive, deleterious, deceptive, irresponsible, and ruinous, both to the body and the soul of its victim. We believe there is no good excuse for its continuance, or for any half-way or insipid measures for its redress. If the Church of Jesus Christ is not foremost in this reform, who may be expected to take the lead in it? Total abstinence from all that intoxicates is, we believe, the only certain remedy; the only line of safety; the only true panacea of recovery or prevention; the only practical and palpable discrimination; the only philosophy that is at once easy, cheap, innocent, universal, and infallible; the only sure safe-guard to health, character, conscience, and the blessings usually concomitant. We do not, however, presume to dictate to you, dear brethren, or forget your Christian liberty, or willingly disparage it. We only reciprocate your kindness to us, in this fraternal representation; though we have learned to believe, that in our cordially-honored Scotland peculiarly, ay, in her exemplary churches and among many of her honored and learned and venerable clergy too, this admonition may be quite applicable and very seasonable; even though herein we are at present so brief, and "would merely suggest, that, faithfulness and love seem to require that we should represent to our North-British brethren the views which we entertain," of which we have proved the sovereign and the wonderful advantages, and to which we would "solicit their earnest attention, as to a subject which excites so strong a feeling," with so increasing a power, "in the minds of American Christians." We know you will appreciate us, when we assure you, with all reverence and love, that we feel, more than we speak, on this great moral topic of individual obligation and universal interest; and as you desire us to appreciate you, in all your wisdom and fidelity may see fit to say to us,

> Hanc veniam petimusque damusque vicissim;
>
> This privilege we mutual grant and claim;
> As yours or ours 't is equal and the same:
> A pagan sentiment or classic tie
> That more befits our Christian unity.

The late movement that has affected two hemispheres in favor of Christian Union, has met, in its motive and its object, our cordial approbation. It is founded on a grand truth of revelation, the divine unity of the Church. We have all, who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity, substantially one Lord, one faith, and one baptism. We are all called in one hope of our calling, and in one body, and that the body of Christ. We have all one Saviour, one Gospel, one Bible, one heaven, one destination, one and the same eternal home: by whatever name we may here be called, with whatever peculiarities diversified in appearance, in whatever prejudices alienated, or from whatever causes mutually unknown. Hence we approve of any well-appointed league and covenant in the nineteenth century, which, as the œcumenical Evangelical Alliance of the Church universal, enables all Christians to symbolize their substantial unity to all men, to defend their common interests, and to promote wisely the great cause of God in this sinful world. To honor the things in which they agree, without compromising those in which they differ, is surely wise, magnanimous, and safe, and we rejoice with

you in its probable and desired success, as the offspring of the grace of God. And now, brethren, we commend you to God our Father, to the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour, and to the Holy Ghost our Sanctifier and Comforter; and remain your affectionate brethren in the bonds of the Gospel.

By order and in behalf of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America.

SAMUEL HANSON COX, *Moderator.*
EDWIN FRANCIS HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

Cincinnati, State of Ohio, May 24, 1847.

MINUTES, 1849.

Philadelphia, May 17th, 1849.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian church in the city of Philadelphia, on Thursday, May 17th, 1849, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from 1 Chron. xii. 32—"And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do; the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment."

After a recess, the Assembly met again at 4 o'clock, P. M., and was constituted with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions reported that the following persons present* had been duly appointed Commissioners to this General Assembly, viz.:—

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	Abraham D. Brinckerhoff.	
2. *Troy*,	Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D.,	Albert Wright, M. D.
3. *Albany*,	Josiah Fisher.	
4. *Columbia*,	Gideon N. Judd, D. D.,	Josiah W. Fairfield (2).
5. *Delaware*,	Charles Chapman.	

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	Baruch B. Beckwith.	
2. *Watertown*,	Peter Snyder.	
3. *Oswego.*		
4. *Otsego*,	George S. Boardman,	Hon. David H. Little.
5. *Utica*,	Orlo Bartholomew.	

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Onondaga*,	Richard F. Cleveland,	James M. Monroe.
2. *Cayuga*,	L. P. Hickok, D. D.,	Salem Town.
3. *Geneva*,	Geo. R. H. Shumway,	Arad Joy.
4. *Cortland.*		
5. *Chenango*,	Hiram Dyer,	Alamanzar Watson.
6. *Tioga*,	Philip C. Hay, D. D.,	Jonathan B. Hart.
7. *Bath*,	Levi Rose.	
8. *Chemung*,	Philemon H. Fowler,	Simeon Benjamin.
9. *Ithaca*,	George Spaulding,	Herman Camp.
10. *Pennsylvania*,	Joseph L. Riggs.	[164]

* The figures indicate the day of the Commissioner's appearance and recognition in the Assembly.

IV. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Genesee*,	Gabriel S. Corwin,	Lewis B. Parsons (4).
2. *Ontario.*		
3. *Rochester.*		
4. *Niagara*,	Henry Callahan.	
5. *Buffalo*,	Reuben Tinker,	Jesse Stone (2).
6. *Angelica*,	Samuel A. Rawson.	

V. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Daniel T. Wood,	Hon. Robert Denniston (5).
2. *North River*,	Henry G. Ludlow,	Hon. Robert Wilkinson.
3. *Long Island*,	James T. Hamlin,	Franklin Tuthill, M. D.
4. *New York, 3d*,	Samuel D. Burchard,	David Hoadley.
5. *New York, 4th*,	James I. Ostrom,	David L. Dodge.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Samuel T. Spear.	John A. Davenport.
7. *Newark*,	Joseph S. Gallagher,	Hon. J. C. Hornblower (5).
8. *Rockaway*,	Daniel H. Johnson,	John Hill.
9. *Montrose*,	Adam Miller (4),	Benjamin S. Bentley.
10. *San Francisco.*		

VI. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	James McIntire,	Samuel Jefferson.
2. *Philadelphia, 3d*,	John Crowell,	Wilfred Hall.
3. *Philadelphia, 4th*,	Thomas Brainerd, D. D.,	Charles S. Wurts.
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Daniel H. Emerson,	Samuel W. Hays.

VII. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	Pieree Chamberlain.	
2. *Meadville*,	George W. Hampson.	
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Alexander Porter.	

VIII. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	Mead Holmes.	
2. *Portage*,	Elias C. Sharp (2).	
3. *Huron*,	Enoch Conger (3),	Andrew Hepburn.
4. *Trumbull*,	Hezekiah W. Osborn,	Walter King (2).
5. *Cleveland*,	William H. Beecher (2).	
6. *Medina*,	Sherman D. Taylor (2).	
7. *Elyria*,	Eldad Barber.	
8. *Maumee.*		

IX. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	John G. Atterbury.
2. *St. Joseph*,	Norman Kellogg.
3. *Monroe*,	Ebenezer Cheever.
4. *Marshall*,	Samuel H. Hall.
5. *Washtenaw*,	William S. Curtis.
6. *Kalamazoo*,	Ova P. Hoyt.
7. *Ionia.*	

X. SYNOD OF OHIO.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Athens*,		George W. Cooper (2).
2. *Pataskala*,	Alexander Duncan,	James Young.
3. *Franklin*,	Henry Shedd.	
4. *Scioto*,	Franklin S. Howe (4).	

XI. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	D. Howe Allen, D. D.,	William B. Moores (2).
2. *Dayton*,	John W. Hall, D. D.,	Daniel Keifer.
3. *Hamilton*,	Joseph S. Edwards.	

XII. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	Benjamin F. Stuart.	
2. *Madison*,	Henry Little.	
3. *Crawfordsville*,	John Fairchild (2).	
4. *Indianapolis*,	Phillip S. Cleland,	Henry G. Todd, M. D. (8)
5. *Logansport*,	Martin M. Post.	
6. *Fort Wayne*,	Isaac N. Taylor,	Jacob Bosworth.
7. *Evansville.*		

XIII. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	Livingston M. Glover.	
2. *Schuyler.*		
3. *Palestine*,	Charles H. Palmer (2).	
4. *Alton*,	Augustus T. Norton,	Asa L. Saunders.
5. *Des Moines*,	Thompson Bird.	

XIV. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa*,	George W. Bassett (5).	
2. *Peoria.*		
3. *Knox.*		
4. *Galena*,	Edward D. Neill.	
5. *Chicago*,	Abner W. Henderson,	Benjamin W. Raymond.
6. *Belvidere*,	Royal N. Wright.	

XV. SXNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	Artemas Bullard, D. D.	
2. *Northern Missouri.*		
3. *Lexington*,	Edmund Wright (2).	
4. *Osage*,	William H. Smith (2).	

XVI. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester*,	Thomas D. Bell,	Robert M. Campbell.
2. *D. of Columbia*,	James G. Hamner, D. D.,	William H. Campbell.
3. *Hanover*,	James H. C. Leach, D. D.,	Samuel Reeve.

XVII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union*,	Hiram F. Taylor.	
2. *Holston.*		
3. *Kingston*,	William B. Brown.	
4. *New River*,	David F. Palmer,	Abijah Thomas.
5. *Chattahoochee.*		

XVIII. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Harmony*,	John H. Zivley.	
2. *Providence*,	Thomas H. Cleland.	
3. *Green River.*		

XIX. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

1. *W. Tennessee*,	Edward McMillan.	
2. *Shiloh*,	Alfred H. Dashiell.	
3. *N. Alabama*,	William C. Dunlap.	

XX. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

1. *Clinton.*		
2. *S. Lexington*,	Fisher A. Tyler.	
3. *Newton.*		

DELEGATES FROM CORRESPONDING BODIES.

1. *General Association of Connecticut*,	Rev. Samuel W. S. Dutton,
" " "	Rev. Walter Clark.
2. *General Association of Massachusetts.*	
3. *General Association of New Hampshire*,	Rev. J. De Forest Richards.
4. *General Conference of Maine.*	
5. *General Convention of Vermont*,	Rev. James Anderson.
6. *General Evan. Consociation of R. Island.*	
7. *Presb. and Cong. General Convention of Wisconsin*,	Rev. Stephen Peet.
8. *General Synod of the Lutheran Church in the United States*,	Rev. Charles P. Krauth, D. D.
9. *General Synod of the German Ref. Ch.*	

The Committee on Commissions further reported, that the Commissions from the Presbyteries of Buffalo, Otsego, Bath, Elyria, and Logansport, want the signature of the Moderator. That the Commission from the Presbytery of Hudson wants the signature of the Stated Clerk; and that the Commissions from the Presbytery of Tioga, though regularly signed, are not after the form prescribed by the Constitution.

It was ordered that, where the form is substantially observed, and the Commission authenticated by either Moderator or Clerk, the name be enrolled; and the Commissioners from these Presbyteries were enrolled accordingly.

Nominations were made for Moderator. After which the Roll was called, and the Rev. Philip C. Hay, D. D., of the Presbytery of Tioga, was elected, and inducted into office in the usual form.

The Rev. Ova P. Hoyt was chosen Temporary Clerk.

Resolved, that the "General Rules for Judicatories," in the Appendix to the Constitution, be adopted, with the exception of Rules, 36, 37, 38, as the Rules of this General Assembly. [167]

Resolved, that the Assembly will spend one-half hour in devotional exercises, every morning, before proceeding to business.

Resolved, that the Assembly meet every morning at 9 o'clock, A. M., and adjourn at half-past one o'clock, P. M.; in the afternoon, at 4 o'clock, and adjourn at 6 o'clock.

The Rev. T. Brainerd, D. D., on account of sickness in his family, was permitted to be absent as occasion might require.

Copies of the printed Minutes of the last Assembly, agreeably to a standing rule, were distributed to the members, on a call of the Roll.

Ordered, that 500 copies of the Roll be printed for the use of the Assembly.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 18th, 9 o'clock, A.M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Half an hour was occupied in devotional exercises.

After which the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, and their names were placed on the Roll:

Rev. John Fairchild,	of the Presbytery of	Crawfordsville,
Rev. Charles H. Palmer,	"	Palestine,
Rev. Sherman D. Taylor,	"	Medina,
Rev. Elias C. Sharp,	"	Portage,
Rev. William H. Smith,	"	Osage,
Elder George W. Cooper,	"	Athens,
Elder Walter King,	"	Trumbull,
Elder Jesse Stone,	"	Buffalo.

The following Standing Committees were then announced by the Moderator, viz.:

On Bills and Overtures,—Ministers, N. S. S. Beman, D. D., J. H. C. Leach, D. D., and Henry Little. *Elders*, Robert Wilkinson, Simeon Benjamin, and Benjamin W. Raymond.

On the Polity of the Church,—Ministers, Gideon N. Judd, D. D., Artemas Bullard, D. D., D. H. Allen, D. D., and Ebenezer Cheever. *Elders*, David L. Dodge, Charles S. Wurts, and Samuel Reeve.

On Devotional Exercises,—Ministers, James G. Hamner, D. D., Henry G. Ludlow, and Joseph S. Edwards. *Elders*, Samuel W. Hayes, and Daniel Keifer.

On the Narrative,—Ministers, Laurens P. Hickok, D. D., John G. Atterbury, Livingston M. Glover, and John H. Zivley.

On Leave of Absence,—Ministers, Norman Kellogg, P. H. Fowler, and Daniel H. Johnson. *Elders*, David L. Dodge, and Robert M. Campbell. [168]

On Mileage,—Elders, Herman Camp, David Hoadley, and Samuel Jefferson.

The following Committees were appointed to examine the Records of the several Synods, viz.: on the Records of the Synod of

Albany,—Ministers, William S. Curtis, William B. Brown, and Alexander Porter. *Elders*, Herman Camp, and Andrew Hepburn.

Utica,—Ministers, John Crowell, Mead Holmes, and W. C. Dunlap. *Elders*, Franklin Tuthill, M. D., and Jesse Stone.

Geneva,—Ministers, Augustus T. Norton, George W. Hampson, and Eldad Barber. *Elders*, Jacob Bosworth, and John Hill.

Genesee,—Ministers, Joseph S. Gallagher, Isaac N. Taylor, and Fisher A. Tyler. *Elders*, Asa L. Saunders, and Benjamin S. Bentley.

New York and New Jersey,—Ministers, Pierce Chamberlain, James McIntire, and Abner W. Henderson. *Elders*, Wilfred Hall, and James M. Munroe.

Pennsylvania,—Ministers, Samuel D. Burchard, Josiah Fisher, and Hezekiah W. Osborn. *Elders*, Abijah Thomas, and John B. Hart.

West Pennsylvania,—Ministers, G. R. H. Shumway, J. I. Ostrom, and Hiram F. Taylor. *Elders*, William H. Campbell, and Alamanzar Watson.

Western Reserve,—Ministers, Thomas H. Cleland, James T. Hamlin, and B. F. Stuart. *Elders*, Arad Joy, and John A. Davenport.

Michigan,—Ministers. Daniel T. Wood, Royal N. Wright, and David F. Palmer. *Elders*, Alfred Wright, and James Young.

Ohio,—Ministers, Samuel H. Hall, Hiram Dyer, and Edward D. Neill. *Elders*, Salem Town, and Daniel Keifer.

Cincinnati,—Ministers, Samuel T. Spear, Reuben Tinker, and Thomas D. Bell. *Elders*, Robert Wilkinson and D. H. Little.

Indiana,—Ministers, A. D. Brinckerhoff, Samuel A. Rawson, and Thompson Bird. *Elders*, Benjamin W. Raymond, and S. W. Hayes.

Illinois,—Ministers, Henry Shedd, B. B. Beckwith, and Peter Snyder. *Elders*, Abijah Thomas, and Jesse Stone.

Peoria,—Ministers, Edward McMillan, Henry Callahan, and Orlo Bartholomew. *Elders*, J. M. Munroe, and Charles S. Wurts.

Missouri,—Ministers, Alexander Duncan, Charles Chapman, and Joseph L. Riggs. *Elders*, Samuel Jefferson, and Jacob Bosworth.

Virginia,—Ministers, George S. Boardman, George Spaulding, and J. H. Zivley. *Elders*, Simeon Benjamin, and David Hoadley.

Tennessee,—Ministers, M. M. Post, Gabriel S. Corwin, and Levi Rose. *Elders*, James Young, and Franklin M. Tuthill, M. D.

Kentucky,—Ministers, D. H. Emerson, Joseph S. Edwards, and Hezekiah W. Osborn. *Elders*, Wilfred Hall, and Herman Camp.

West Tennessee,—Ministers, L. M. Glover, Mead Holmes, and Hiram Dyer. *Elders*, Jonathan B. Hart, and Benjamin S. Bentley.

Mississippi,—Ministers, Richard F. Cleaveland, Abner W. Henderson, and Alexander Porter. *Elders*, John A. Davenport, and Asa L. Saunders.

The answers to the Overtures sent down to the Presbyteries by the last Assembly were put into the hands of the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The Narratives of the Presbyteries were put into the hands of the Com-
[169] mittee on the Narrative; and the Statistical Reports into the hands of the Stated Clerk.

The presentation of Synodical Records was made the order of the day for 4 o'clock, P. M.

A memorial from the Synod of Ohio, on the subject of "Slavery," was presented and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

Another memorial, on the subject of a "Division of the Church," was presented and referred to the same Committee.

Ordered, that the money for the Commissioners' and Contingent Funds of the Assembly be paid into the hands of the Treasurer of the Assembly.

The Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont, made a report, which was accepted.

The nomination of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies was made the order of the day for 4½ o'clock, this P. M.

The printed Minutes of Corresponding Bodies were distributed among the several Synods.

The Committee, appointed by the last Assembly to correspond with delinquent Presbyteries, made a report which was accepted; and that part of it, which related to the Presbyteries of Londonderry and Newburyport, was referred to the Committee on the Records of the Synod of Albany.

The Committee, appointed to correspond with the Presbyteries, on the necessity of more liberal contributions to the Commissioners' and Contingent Funds of the Assembly, made a report which was adopted.

The Treasurer of the General Assembly, Thomas Fleming, Esq., presented his report, which was accepted, and referred to an *Auditing Committee* consisting of Messrs. D. H. Little, W. King, and A. Joy.

The report of the Committee of the last Assembly, on the subject of the revision of the Standards, was made the order of the day for Monday, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The injunction, by the last Assembly, on the Synod of Cincinnati (Minutes, p. 31), was referred to the Committee on the Records of the Synod of Cincinnati.

Adjourned until 4 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, and their names were placed on the Roll:

Rev. Edmund Wright,	of the	Presbytery	of Lexington,
Rev. William H. Beecher,	"	"	Cleveland,
William B. Moores, Elder,	"	"	Cincinnati,
Josiah W. Fairfield,	"	"	Columbia.

The Records of Synods were called for, and committed to the respective Committees for examination.

A communication was received from J. R. Ingersoll, Esq., inviting the members of the Assembly to visit the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine [170] Arts. The invitation was accepted, and the Clerk was directed to return the thanks of this body.

A communication from Elliot Cresson, Esq., presenting 100 copies of the *Colonization Herald*, (containing a sermon of the Rev. Dr. Parker,) for the use of the members of this Assembly, was received. The Clerk was directed to acknowledge the donation, and return the thanks of the Assembly.

A nomination was made of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies; and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Auditing Committee reported, that they had examined the Treasurer's accounts, showing a balance in the Treasury of $11.71, and had found them correct. Their report was adopted.

The subject of the election of ruling elders for a limited period, referred from the last Assembly, was taken up; and, after some discussion, was referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the churches to observe the first Monday in January next as a day of fasting and special prayer for the conversion of the world.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture, No. 7, from several individuals in Galena, Ill., and its neighborhood, on the subject of a Theological Seminary in the North-West, with a recommendation of the appointment of a Committee to correspond with the memorialists and others, and report to the next General Assembly; which was adopted. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., and Rev. Albert Barnes, were appointed the *Committee of Correspondence.*

Also, Overture, No. 9, from the Presbytery of New York, 3d, suggesting the propriety of a sermon on Home Missions at each meeting of the General Assembly; recommending its adoption, and the delivery, if practicable, of such a sermon some time during the sessions of this Assembly. The report was put on the docket.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 19th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioner:—Rev. Enoch Conger, from the Presbytery of Huron.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The sudden death of Mr. James Hanna, a Commissioner, on his way to the Assembly, having been announced, Rev. Messrs. M. M. Post and J. Fairchild were appointed a Committee to bring in a suitable minute.

The Rev. J. G. Hamner, D. D., from the Committee on Devotional Exercises, made a report, recommending that the Assembly unite in the celebration of the Lord's Supper, on Thursday, at 4 o'clock, P. M., and that the following be the order of exercises: [171]

1. Reading the Scriptures and Hymn, by the Moderator,
2. Remarks on the Nature of the Ordinance, " " Rev. J. H. C. Leach, D. D.,
3. Administration of the Bread, " " Rev. J. W. Hall, D. D.,
4. Administration of the Cup, " " Rev. Thos. D. Bell,
5. Concluding Address, " " Rev. G. N. Judd, D. D.,
6. Hymn and Benediction, " " Rev. A. Bullard, D. D.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly proceeded to consider the place of next meeting. Nominations were made; the Roll was called, and the city of Detroit, Michigan, was chosen.

A letter was received from Prof. C. D. Cleveland, presenting, for the use of the Assembly, 150 copies of an oration of Charles Sumner, Esq., on the "True Grandeur of Nations." The donation was accepted, and the Clerk directed to express to Prof. Cleveland the thanks of the Assembly.

Proceeded to the election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies. The Rev. Messrs. W. H. Beecher and G. R. H. Shumway were appointed a Committee to collect and count the votes.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures No. 17, 18, 19, 20, on the general subject of ruling elders, which, on their recommendation, were referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Also, Overtures, No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, on the general subject of Slavery, which were referred to a Committee, consisting of Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. J. W. Hall, D. D., Rev. S. T. Spear, Rev. E. McMillan, and Rev. M. M. Post, and Messrs. J. W. Fairfield and R. Wilkinson.

Overture, No. 9, in reference to a sermon before the Assembly on "Home Missions," was taken up, and the recommendation of the Committee adopted. The Rev. Albert Barnes was requested to preach on the subject of Home Missions, at some time during the sessions of this Assembly.

On motion of the Rev. D. H. Allen, D. D., it was unanimously resolved that a Delegate be appointed to attend the next meeting of the General Association of New York. The Rev. Laurens P. Hickok, D. D., was appointed the Delegate, and the Rev. S. D. Burchard, alternate.

The Committee, appointed to collect and count the votes for Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, reported that the following persons had been duly elected; To the

General Association of Connecticut, Rev. Gideon N. Judd, D. D., Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., and Rev. Henry Little.

General Association of Massachusetts, Rev. Gideon N. Judd, D. D., and Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D.

Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, Rev. Henry Little.

General Association of New Hampshire, Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., and Rev. Royal N. Wright.

General Convention of Vermont, Rev. Edmund Wright.

General Conference of Maine, Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield.

Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin, Rev. Ova P. Hoyt, and Rev. George S. Boardman.

General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, Rev. J. H. C. Leach, D. D. Alternate, Rev. Charles H. Read. [172]

General Synod of the German Reformed Church, Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D.

The Rule on the compensation of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies (see Digest, p. 308,) was amended by adding to it the words, "not exceeding their necessary traveling expenses."

The Committee on Devotional Exercises were directed to confer with Rev. A. Barnes, as to the request of the Assembly, relative to the delivery of a sermon on Home Missions.

The report of the Committee, appointed by the last Assembly on Home Missions, was presented, and having been read, was accepted, and referred to a Committee, consisting of Rev. A. Bullard, D. D., Rev. D. H. Allen, D. D., Rev. A. T. Norton, Rev. H. Little, Rev. Thomas H. Cleland, and Messrs. Abijah Thomas, and William B. Moores, to report the proper action in the case.

Resolved, that the Stated Clerk of each Presbytery be directed to collect, and send to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, a sum equal in amount to twenty-five cents for each member of the Presbytery, for the Minutes of the Assembly. And, that the Stated Clerk of the Assembly be directed to publish at least 1,500 copies of the Minutes of the Assembly, and send a copy to each minister, and each vacant church session, whose post-office address is given in the Statistical Report of their Presbytery, and whose Presbytery has complied with the above rule.

Rev. George Duffield, D. D., Rev. R. R. Kellogg, and Messrs. Alexander McFarren, E. P. Hastings, and Thomas Roland were appointed a *Committee of Arrangements* for the meeting of the next General Assembly.

An invitation was received, from the visiting inspectors of the State Penitentiary, to visit that institution on any day of next week between 2 and 5 o'clock, P. M. The invitation was accepted, and the Clerk directed to return the thanks of the Assembly.

Adjourned until Monday next, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 21st, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, and their names were placed on the Roll.

Rev. Adam Miller, from the Presbytery of Montrose,

Elder Lewis B. Parsons, " Genesee.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., having declined the appointment of Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont, the Rev. Edmund Wright was chosen in his place.

The hearing of the reports of Delegates from Corresponding Bodies, in relation to the state of religion in their respective connections, was made the order of the day for this afternoon, at 4 o'clock. [173]

The Rev. E. F. Hatfield, from the Committee appointed by the last Assembly on the revision of the Standards, made a report which was accepted and referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The Committee, appointed to bring in a suitable minute in the case of the sudden decease of one of the Commissioners to this Assembly, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

1. *Resolved*, That the General Assembly have heard with deep emotion, of the death, by cholera, of a Commissioner, Mr. James Hanna, a Ruling Elder, from the Presbytery of Crawfordsville, on his way to partake in their deliberations.

2. *Resolved*, That, while we are penetrated with grief for the loss, in this bereavement, to our fraternal fellowship, and to the Church of God; and, while we affectionately condole with the family of our lamented brother; still, we would bow in peaceful submission to the Divine Sovereignty, whose wisdom has controlled the circumstances of this dispensation, and alike blesses when it gives, and when it takes away.

3. *Resolved*, That, while we thus humbly recognise a stern lesson of our frailty, and fresh motives to watchfulness, and a subdued and kind spirit in our deportment;—and, while we embalm the memory of one who, as an elder, ruled well; as a friend of education in the Sabbath-school and the college, was a distinguished laborer;—who, with a warm heart, much prayer, and a word in season, went about doing good, and crowned his life with a gratuitous and self-denying agency of some months, for the A. B. C. F. Missions;—while we cherish these remembrances, we would be moved to greater diligence and faithfulness, till we, too, shall be called by the Master to receive as our work shall be.

4. *Resolved*, That this testimonial of our sympathy be communicated to the family of the deceased.

Nominations were made for the appointment of the preacher on Home Missions before the next Assembly. After which the Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., was elected preacher, and the Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., his alternate.

Adjourned until 4 o 'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, 4 o'clock, P M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissioners reported an additional Commissioner,—the Rev. Franklin S. Howe, from the Presbytery of Scioto.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz.: the hearing of the Delegates from Corresponding Bodies, on the state of religion in their respective Churches.

Reports were received from the General Association of Connecticut, by the Rev. Walter Clark, and Rev. S. W. S. Dutton; from the Gen. Association of New Hampshire, by the Rev. J. De Forest Richards; from the General Convention of Vermont, by the Rev. James Anderson; from the [174] Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, by the Rev. Stephen Peet; and from the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, by the Rev. Charles P. Krauth, D. D.; which were accepted and referred to the Committee on the Narrative.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported No 21, and No. 30, on "Slavery;" which were referred to the Special Committee on that subject.

Also, Overture No. 23, "Is it orderly for our Presbyteries and Synods

to invite ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church to sit as Corresponding Members?" which was answered by the Assembly unanimously in the affirmative.

Also, No. 24, from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third, on the restoration of appellate jurisdiction to the Assembly; which was referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Also, No. 25, on the division of the Synod of Geneva, which was put upon the docket.

Also, No. 26, an account of R. T. Haines, Esq.; which was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Messrs. D. H. Little, D. Hoadley, and C. S. Wurts.

Also, No. 27, from the Presbytery of New York, Third, in reference to the erection of a Presbytery in California, which was put upon the docket.

Also, No. 28, on the doings of the Synod of Michigan, which was put upon the docket.

Also, No, 29, on the boundary line between the Synods of Indiana and Michigan, which was put upon the docket.

Also, No. 22, an Overture in these words:—"*Resolved*, that a proposal be made to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, now holding its sessions in the city of Pittsburg, to institute fraternal correspondence by the interchange of Delegates," which was taken up and its adoption moved by the Rev. G. Spaulding.

The Rev. P. H. Fowler moved the indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

The discussion was continued until 6½ o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 22d, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, and their names were added to the Roll.

Hon. Joseph C. Hornblower, Elder from the Presbytery of Newark; Hon. Robert Denniston, Elder from the Presbytery of Hudson; and Rev. George W. Basset, from the Presbytery of Ottawa.

The usual time was devoted to religious exercises. [175]

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, that the Rev. Mr. Barnes had respectfully declined the appointment to preach a sermon on Home Missions, during the present sessions.

It was made the order of the day, for this P. M., at 4 o'clock, to hear the Rev. John Marsh, Cor. Secretary of the American Temperance Union, on the subject of Temperance.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz.: the indefinite postponement of the notice to send Delegates to the Assembly at Pittsburgh, was resumed.

The motion to postpone was lost.

The Rev. G. R. H. Shumway then moved, to refer the whole subject to a special *Committee* of five, to report to the next General Assembly, which was carried, and Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. James G. Hamner, D. D., Rev. Henry G. Ludlow, and Messrs. Ambrose White, and Frederick A. Raybold were appointed.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, reported on the subject of the answers to the Overtures sent down by the last Assembly:

That it appears from the Roll, that there are 104 Presbyteries connected with the Assembly, of which 53 are a majority: that eighty-one Presbyteries have sent in their answers to the Overtures, and twenty-three have not.

That to the first and second Overtures which respect the return to annual Assemblies, the following sixty-three Presbyteries have answered in the AFFIRMATIVE:—

Champlain, Troy, Albany, Columbia, St. Lawrence. Otsego, Utica, Onondaga, Cayuga, Chenango, Tioga, Chemung, Ithaca, Genesee, Niagara, Buffalo, Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York Third, New York Fourth, Brooklyn, Newark, Rockaway, Montrose, Wilmington, Philadelphia Third, Philadelphia Fourth, Harrisburgh, Erie, Meadville. Pittsburgh, Huron, Cleveland, Detroit, St. Joseph, Monroe, Marshall, Washtenaw, Kalamazoo, Athens, Pataskala, Scioto, Cincinnati, Dayton, Salem, Logansport, Schuyler, Palestine, Alton, Des Moines, Ottawa, Galena, Chicago, Belvidere, St. Louis, Hanover, Union, Holston, Kingston, Providence, W. Tennessee, and Shiloh—63.

And the following twenty-six Presbyteries have answered in the NEGATIVE:

Delaware, Watertown, Oswego, Geneva, Bath, Pennsylvania, Grand River, Portage, Medina, Elmira, Maumee, Ionia, Franklin, Hamilton, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, Illinois, Lexington, Osage, Winchester, District of Columbia, New River, Harmony, N. Alabama, S. Lexington, and Newton—26.

These Overtures, therefore, are affirmed and the Constitution is changed accordingly, viz.:

1. Section 7th of Chapter XI., Form of Government, is altered so as to read "annually," instead of "triennially."

2. The first sentence of Sec. 7th of Chapter XII., Form of Government, is altered so as to read "the General Assembly shall meet at least once in every year," instead of "the General Assembly shall meet at least triennially or once in every third year."

To the Overtures Nos. 3, 4, and 5, pertaining to appeals in the case of ministers, forty Presbyteries have answered in the AFFIRMATIVE, and forty-seven Presbyteries have answered in the NEGATIVE.

The changes proposed by these Overtures are, therefore, not adopted. [176]

The Committee farther reported in reference to the memorials, asking a change in the term of service of ruling elders, that they are not prepared to recommend any Overture on the subject.

The report was accepted; and the subject of the term of service of ruling elders was put upon the docket.

The Records of the following Synods were, on the recommendation of the Committees appointed to examine them, approved as far as written, viz.:

Albany, Geneva, New York and New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Western Reserve, Ohio, Indiana, Peoria, Missouri, Virginia, and West Tennessee.

The Records of the Synod of Michigan were, on the recommendation of the Committee, approved, with the following exception—that on pp. 137, 138, 139, 140, the Synod declined to receive two members whose names appear on the Minutes of two of the Presbyteries; and that the Synod also directed said Presbyteries to strike the names of said members of Presbytery from their Roll; one of the members belonging to the Presbytery of Monroe, and the other to the Presbytery of St. Joseph.

The Records of the Synod of Illinois were, on the recommendation of the Committee, approved, with the following exceptions, viz.:

1. At the sessions of Synod in October, 1846, it does not appear from the Records, that a Narrative of the State of Religion was prepared. Such an

omission is considered contrary to the general usage of Synods, and not for the edification of the Church.

2. On p. 299, the Committee on the Records of the Presbytery of Alton reported that the book be approved with exceptions: but no order was taken by Synod in reference to the report of the Committee on the Records of that Presbytery.

The Records of the Synods of Utica and Kentucky not being present, the Committees were discharged.

The Committee on Leave of Absence, reported that they had given leave of absence to A. Hepburn. M. D., Rev. L. P. Hickok, D. D., and Messrs. G. W. Cooper and B. S. Bentley.

Overture No. 27, on erecting a Presbytery in California, was taken up, and adopted as follows:

"*Resolved*, That the Rev. Timothy Dwight Hunt, of the Presbytery and Synod of Genesee, the Rev. John Waldo Douglass, of the 3d Presbytery of New York, the Rev. Samuel B. Willey, of the 4th Presbytery of New York, (the two latter being in connection with the Synod of New York and New Jersey,) and such other ministers of our Church, if any, who may choose to associate with them for this object, be, and they hereby are, detached from their respective Presbyteries, and constituted a Presbytery, by the name of the Presbytery of San Francisco; to be attached to the Synod of New York and New Jersey; to hold their first meeting at San Francisco, in the territory of California, on Wednesday, October 3d, 1849; or, if more convenient, at such other time and place as they may select; and the Rev. T. D. Hunt, or, in his absence, the next senior minister present, to preside, and open the meeting with a sermon; after which the Presbytery to meet on their own adjournment.

Overture No. 28, on the doings of the Synod of Michigan, in the matter of enjoining on the Presbyteries of St. Joseph and Monroe, to erase the [177] names of Rev. Marcus Harrison and Rev. A. L. Payson from their Rolls, was taken up.

On motion of the Rev. H. G. Ludlow, it was *Resolved*, that the action of the Synod in the premises is unconstitutional.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Genesee. made a report, recommending that the Records be approved; which was under discussion, when the Assembly adjourned until 4 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. John Marsh, Secretary of the Am. Temperance Union, was heard, agreeably to previous appointment, on the subject of Temperance.

After which, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, that having heard the declaration put forth by a Clerical Convention held in the city of New York, on the 8th of May, and extensively published, on the subject of Temperance, the General Assembly do fully approve of the same, and recommend the action it proposes to all the ministers and churches within their bounds.

The Committee, appointed to examine the Records of the Synod of Cincinnati, made a report, recommending that the book be approved as far as written, with the following exceptions:

1. The opening minute of each session is defective in not recording the meeting of the Synod before its being opened with prayer; pp. 124, 127, 136, 146, 149.

2. The record of recesses of Synod is defective, in not specifying the time to which said recesses were taken; pp. 125, 129, 139.

3. The omission, at the opening of each session, to read the Minutes of the previous session, with no evidence in the Records that the Minutes were approved by Synod.

4. The report of a Committee recorded, but no disposition made of it by the Synod; p. 127.

5. There is no record of calling the Roll for the remarks of the members, before taking the vote in the case of an appeal by A. King; p. 132.

The report was thus far adopted.

On the 6th exception, viz.: "6th. The vote of the Synod not to comply with the injunction of the last Assembly in the case of Mr. Graham; in respect to which vote the Synod is directed to re-consider their action, and proceed in conformity with the instructions of the last Assembly,"—a long discussion ensued. Mr. Spear moved to amend, by inserting "ought" in the place of "is directed." Before the question was taken, at 6¼ o'clock, on motion of the Rev. W. H. Beecher, the whole subject was indefinitely postponed. And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [178]

Wednesday, May 23d, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The usual time was devoted to religious exercises.

The Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Committee of the last Assembly on Home Missions, reported the following resolutions, which, after much discussion, were adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That the Providence of God, as indicated in the wonderful improvements of the age, in the commotions of the old world, the influx of foreigners, and the unparalleled increase of population in our extensive and extending country, calls for the entire consecration, and most self-denying and efficient action of the Christian ministry.

2. *Resolved*, That the friends of Christ are called upon to use all wise and Christian means to raise up ministers, and meet the emergencies of coming years.

3. That our Presbyteries are admonished to secure, so far as possible, a good supply for all the feeble churches under their care, and to gather congregations and organize churches in the towns and settlements in which it may be practicable; either by employing a permanent missionary agent, or by such other means as the circumstances and necessities of these destitute fields demand.

4. That those ministers, who preach to two or more congregations, should use their best endeavors to induce the elders of the churches to hold Sabbath-schools, in connection with some form of religious worship, at a regular hour every Sabbath day, when their ministers cannot be present.

5. That we should make efforts to induce the children of immigrants to attend our Sabbath-schools; and the adults, our congregations; and when they are converted to join our churches, or to organize churches of their own in connection with us; that as soon as possible they may be Americanized in their language and feelings, and become evangelical in their religion.

6. That every congregation which has no church edifice, should, without

unnecessary delay, build themselves a suitable house of worship; that generally this should be done by their own exertions, or by such aid only as can be secured in their own vicinity.

But if, in any case, a church, or churches of a district of country, really need assistance from abroad, then the strong ought to help bear the burdens of the weak; and, in all such cases, those asking aid should bear such testimonials from the Synods to which they belong, that the benefactors may know that their charities will be well bestowed.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture 32, on "Slavery," which was referred to the Committee on Slavery.

Also, Overture 33, from the Synod of Genesee, proposing the formation of a new Synod; which was referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The Committee, to whom was referred Overture 26, an account of R. T. Haines, Esq., made the following report which was adopted. The Com- [179] mittee have examined the account, from which it appears, that the Assembly are indebted to Mr. Haines in the sum of $252, for moneys advanced by him for the use of the Assembly; that the whole sum, with the exception of about $30, was advanced before the division of the General Assembly, viz. in the months of November and December, 1837, after the exscinding acts of that year; that the advance was made for counsel fees and publications, which it was thought necessary should be expended by the friends of constitutional order, for the preservation of the constitution of the Assembly.

Your Committee are of the opinion that the account is just and equitable; and that it ought therefore to be paid. They respectfully recommend to the Assembly, to direct their Treasurer to pay Mr. Haines the sum of $252, out of any funds which are unappropiated, which may come into his hands as Treasurer, upon the presentation by Mr. Haines of the vouchers showing the expenditure.

On motion of F. Tuthill, M. D., it was *Resolved*, that the Assembly close its sessions on Friday next.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture 34, from the Presbytery of Knox, on "Slavery," which was referred to the Committee on that subject.

Also, Overture 35, proposing a return to the polity of 1837; referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Also, Overture 36, on the case of the Rev. Mr. Bridgman, which was referred to the Committee on the Records of Genesee, to report the facts in the case.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures, at their own request, were then discharged.

The Assembly having ascertained that the names of the Presbyteries of Londonderry, Newburyport, and Lewes, had been stricken from the Rolls of their respective Synods, resolved to erase their names from the Roll of the Assembly.

Resolutions in reference to the American Bible Society were presented by the Rev. G. N. Judd, D. D., which were adopted and are as follows:

1. Believing, as this Assembly does, in the great Protestant doctrine, that the Bible is indispensable to the well-being of the State and the Church, of families and individuals, therefore,

Resolved, That it becomes one of the clearest of duties to promote the diffusion of this sacred volume as extensively as possible.

2. As the history of Bible Society organizations, in the present century,

shows, that through their instrumentality an unparalleled increase of translations and distributions has been effected; that the best of all books has thus become the lowest of all in price, is kept clear from sectarian perversions, and is primarily and mainly furnished to the destitute, therefore,

Resolved, That this mode of preparing and circulating the Word of God has the hearty approbation of this General Assembly.

3. As the American Bible Society has co-operating branches and auxiliaries in most parts of the country, designed and calculated to facilitate the supply of our own population with the Scriptures, therefore,

Resolved, That the churches and congregations be invited to co-operate [180] with these local organizations, and render them efficient in furnishing destitute families, Sunday-schools, and all who need, with Bibles and Testaments.

4. As the parent Society, by the growth of new States and Territories, by the revolutions of Europe, and by the progress of missions in Mahommedan and Pagan countries, is now called upon annually for a much larger amount of means, than it can furnish towards preparing and circulating the Scriptures, (having a deficiency of nearly $30,000 the past year,) therefore,

Resolved, That it be considered the duty of our respective charges, where circumstances will permit, to assign a month in each year, when a collection shall be taken up, whether a Bible agent be present or not, in furtherance of this important object.

Overture 29, on the boundary line between the Synods of Indiana and Michigan, was taken up, and, at the request of the Commissioners from those Synods, indefinitely postponed.

Adjourned until 4 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported, in reference to the division of the Synod of Geneva, that there are not sufficient data before the Committee on which to found a report. They therefore return the paper for the action of the Assembly.

On motion of the Rev. P. H. Fowler, the whole subject was indefinitely postponed.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Genesee reported the facts in the case of the Rev. William Bridgman.

Whereupon, the Rev. A. Bullard, D. D., moved the indefinite postponement of the whole subject. The discussion of this question continued until the hour of adjournment.

The Rev. S. W. S. Dutton, one of the Delegates from the General Association of Connecticut, after a short address, which was responded to by the Moderator, took his leave.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 24th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The usual time was occupied in religious exercises.

The Rev. Robert Baird, D. D., one of the Corresponding Secretaries of the American and Foreign Christian Union, was heard, by request; after which, on motion of the Rev. G. N. Judd, D. D., it was [181]

Resolved, That the Assembly have heard with great pleasure the statements of the Rev. Dr. Baird, and cordially recommend the American and Foreign Christian Union, to the patronage of all our churches.

The Rev. J. De Forest Richards, Delegate from the Gen. Association of New Hampshire, after a short address, which was responded to by the Moderator, took his leave.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, made a report in reference to a revised edition of the Standards.

The report was accepted and put upon the docket.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz.: the case of Mr. Bridgman, was resumed; the question being on the motion for indefinite postponement.

The motion for indefinite postponement was lost.

The Rev. T. Brainerd, D. D., moved the reference of the case to a special Committee to bring in a minute expressive of the views of this Assembly.

Mr. S. Reeve moved to postpone the question before the house, with a view to take up the following substitute, viz.: "That this whole matter be referred to the Synod of Genesee, with a requisition that they review their action in the case."

The postponement was carried, and the substitute adopted.

Whereupon, on motion of the Rev. M. Holmes, it was *Resolved*, that the Records of the Synod of Genesee be approved with the exception already mentioned.

The Committee on Mileage made the following report, which was adopted; and the Treasurer of the Assembly was directed to pay the Commissioners accordingly.

The number of applicants for the benefit of the Commissioners' Fund is 41; of whom 33 are ministers, and 8 are elders; the number of miles traveled to reach Philadelphia, as reported by the aforesaid Commissioners, is 34,886; the amount contributed to the Commissioners' Fund, as reported by the Treasurer, Thomas Fleming, Esq., is $907.64; and they have apportioned to the Commissioners two cents and six mills for each mile traveled; the aggregate of which equals the above mentioned sum of $907.64.

The following resolutions, on the subject of Catechetical Instruction, were offered by the Rev. W. H. Smith, and unanimously adopted, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That this General Assembly considers the practice of Catechetical Instruction, as well adapted to the prosperity and purity of our Zion.

2. *Resolved*, That this Assembly view also with deep regret the neglect, on the part of many of our churches, of this good old practice of our fathers —a practice which has been attended with such blessed results to the cause of pure and undefiled religion.

3. *Resolved*, That the institution of Sabbath-schools does not exonerate ministers and parents from the duty of teaching the Shorter Catechism to the children of the Church.

4. *Resolved*, That this Assembly earnestly and affectionately recommend to all the ministers and ruling elders in its connection, to teach diligently the young of their respective congregations, the Assembly's Shorter Catechism. [182]

A memorial on Slavery was presented by the Rev. M. Holmes, which was referred to the Committee on that subject.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported, that, since their former report, answers to the Overtures sent down by the last Assembly had been received from several other Presbyteries. *Ordered*, that a memorandum be made of all such answers, and entered on the record.

The Overture, on limiting the term of service of ruling elders, was, on motion, taken up for consideration.

The report of the Committee was read, and after some discussion, was adopted, and is as follows:

Whereas sundry memorials have been presented to the Assembly, asking for a change of the Constitution, respecting the term of service in the office of ruling elder;

Resolved, That while the Assembly sympathize with those churches which are more especially tried by the present rule; yet, believing that the evils of a change would far outweigh those of the present system, they are not prepared to recommend any Overture on the subject.

The Rev. B. B. Beckwith moved, that the following Overture be sent down to the Presbyteries:

"Shall the Form of Government, and Book of Discipline, be restored to what it was previous to 1837?"

It was put upon the docket, to be taken up with the report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church, was then taken up for consideration, and the discussion continued until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until 4 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and engaged in the celebration of the Lord's Supper, agreeably to previous arrangement.

After which the Assembly resumed the unfinished business of the morning, viz.: the consideration of the report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Pending the discussion, the Assembly adjourned, at 6½ o'clock, until tomorrow at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 25th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported an additional Commissioner, viz.: Henry G. Todd, M. D., from the Presbytery of Indianapolis. [183]

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz. the consideration of the report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church, was resumed.

The usual time was devoted to religious exercises.

On motion of the Rev. A. Bullard, D. D., the Stated Clerk was requested to make a statement in reference to the revision of the Standards; and to suggest such Overtures as would best meet the present emergency.

Mr. W. B. Moores then moved the postponement of the report of the Committee, to take up a paper which had just been presented by the Stated Clerk, in connection with his statement.

The motion to postpone was carried.

The Rev. G. S. Boardman moved that the paper read by the Stated Clerk be adopted. The last resolution having been amended, on motion of the Rev. O. P. Hoyt, the paper was adopted, and is as follows:

Whereas, this General Assembly has ascertained, as is fully set forth in the report of the Committee on the Revision of the Standards, (which is

hereby directed to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes,) that the alterations made in the Constitutional Rules, by a Committee of the Assembly of 1840, were made in a manner so irregular and unconstitutional as to occasion great doubt and perplexity as to their authenticity;

And *Whereas*, one of the three Overtures on which these alterations were based, relating to the frequency of the meetings of the General Assembly, has now been constitutionally reversed;

And *Whereas*, serious doubt has been expressed as to the passage of the third Overture of the Assembly of 1839; and the occasion for its passage has now been taken away by the restoration of annual Assemblies;

And *Whereas*, a change in the basis of representation in General Assembly, as established in a constitutional manner by the Assembly of 1833, has never been submitted to the Presbyteries, and constitutionally adopted:

Therefore, in order to ascertain the wishes of the Presbyteries more clearly and fully, as to the expediency of restoring the Constitution, to its condition previous to 1840, and, if this be thought inexpedient, in order to incorporate the principles then introduced in a perfectly regular and constitutional manner.

Resolved, That the Book be restored to the form in which it was published previous to the year 1840, and that the following Overtures be submitted to the Presbyteries:—

I. Limitation of Appeal.

1. Shall Form of Government, Chap. XII., sec. 4, be altered so as to omit the words, "appeals and," before the word "references"?

2. Shall Book of Discipline, Chap. VII., sec. 2, be altered so as to insert the words—"the General Assembly and the Synod in judicial cases," instead of the words, "the highest"?

3. Shall Book of Discipline, Chap. VII., sec. 3, sub. sec. 2, be altered so as to read—"any judicatory not higher than a Synod," instead of "a higher judicatory"?

4. Shall Book of Discipline, Chap. VII., sec. 4, sub. sec. 1, be altered so as to read—"any judicatory inferior to a Synod," instead of "an inferior judicatory"? [184]

II. Pro Re Nata Assemblies.

5. In Form of Government, Chap. XII., shall a new section be introduced after section 7, as follows: "VIII. The last Moderator and the Stated and Permanent Clerks are empowered to call a *pro re nata* meeting of the General Assembly, in case of any emergency, which, in their opinion, demands such a meeting, by circular letter, addressed to each of the Presbyteries, at least four months before the time of holding such meeting?"—and the subsequent section be numbered IX. instead of VIII?

III. Representation in Assembly.

6. Shall Form of Government, Chap. XII., sec. 2, be altered so as to read—"The General Assembly shall consist of an equal delegation of bishops and elders, one of each from every Presbytery; and these delegates so appointed shall be styled, 'Commissioners to the General Assembly'"?

Resolved, further, That, until an expression of the will of the Presbyteries in regard to these Overtures be obtained, it be understood, that all appeals

and complaints shall terminate with the Synods, and that the basis of representation in the Assembly shall be the same as at present.

The Committee, appointed by the last Assembly on the subject of a correspondence with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, presented a report which was accepted, and the following article, agreed upon by the Committee of the two bodies, was unanimously adopted:

"The General Assembly of each Church, shall appoint and receive Delegates from the General Assembly of the other Church, who shall be possessed of all the powers and privileges of other members of such Assemblies except that of voting."

On motion of the Rev. T. Brainerd, D. D., the thanks of this Assembly were tendered to the Committee for their diligence and faithfulness in this matter.

Resolved, That the Rev. C. P. Wing be appointed a Committee, to inform the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, of the action of this body.

The Rev. Edward McMillan was then appointed a Delegate from this body to the next General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and the Rev. C. P. Wing, his alternate.

The Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., from the Committee to whom were referred the memorials on the subject of Slavery, presented a report, which was accepted.

A motion having been made for its adoption, the Rev. G. W. Bassett proposed the following as an amendment:

"*Resolved*, That slaveholding is a sin against God and man, and should be treated by the Christian Church as other gross immoralities."

Pending the discussion of this amendment, the Assembly adjourned until 4 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [185]

Friday, 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning session was interrupted, to hear the Narrative on the State of Religion.

The Rev. J. G. Atterbury, from the Committee on the Narrative, made a report on the state of religion within our bounds.

The report was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The unfinished business, viz.: Mr. Bassett's amendment to the report of the Committee on Slavery, was resumed.

The amendment was lost.

The report of the Committee was then adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee, to whose consideration were submitted sundry papers on the subject of Slavery, now present to the Assembly the following report, consisting of preamble and resolutions:—

These documents are nineteen in number, embracing memorials from four Synods, thirteen Presbyteries, one church, and one from certain individuals. The object of these papers is one and the same, namely, to free the Presbyterian Church from all participation and connection with slaveholding. The measures proposed are various—some more and some less stringent. Some ask for discipline, others for a pastoral letter, a third class for separation from the evil complained of without defining the mode; one proposes the

re-organization of the Church to which we belong into three General Assemblies; one threatens secession if something is not done, and others ask for nothing definite. While these voluminous papers furnish a considerable variety as to tone and manner, and intimations as to the future, and likewise as to a knowledge of the intrinsic difficulties attending this complicated evil, they are sufficiently respectful in their language, and grave and weighty in their opinions and arguments, to demand the wise and prayerful consideration of this Assembly. This consideration, we believe we may say, without boasting or arrogance, they have received from your Committee, and we have a cheerful confidence that they will now receive the same from this body.

This subject is not a new one; it has occupied the attention of the Presbyterian Church from the commencement of its organization—even before the General Assembly had an existence; and your Committee are happy to avail themselves of the lights of former times in presenting this difficult matter to you, and through you to the judicatories and churches under our care. Your Committee would deprecate two errors into which minds of different and opposite structures, on this and all similar subjects, are liable to fall. One class forget that we live in an age of progress, and the other forget that the first step in progress is not perfection. In relation to both of these great truths here alluded to, we should, as rational beings and as Christians, be ready to obey the intimations of Providence, and to follow the guidance of the torch-light of truth which the hand of God holds up before us—to go forward as that goes onward, and to move no faster than its blessed radiance is shed upon our pathway. All theories, when they come [186] to put on the forms of experiment, must yield to the authority of uniform and universal facts; and both progressives and conservatives might render themselves much more comfortable, as well as useful in our world, if they were more deeply imbued with this one practical truth. These remarks apply with great force to all evils which are interwoven with the very texture of social organizations; and Slavery is by no means an exception. Your Committee propose to embody the sentiments of this Assembly, in relation to this evil, in the following resolutions:—

1. *Resolved*, That we re-affirm the sentiments expressed by the Assembly of 1815, and especially in the following quotations:

"The General Assembly have repeatedly declared their cordial approbation of those principles of civil liberty which seem to be recognized by the Federal and State Governments in the United States. They have expressed their regret that the Slavery of the Africans and of their descendants still continues in so many places, and even among those within the pale of the Church; and have urged the Presbyteries under their care to adopt such measures as will secure, at least to the rising generation of slaves within the bounds of the Church, a religious education, that they may be prepared for the exercise and enjoyment of liberty, when God in his providence may open a door for their emancipation."

Again: "The General Assembly assure all the churches under their care, that they view with the deepest concern any vestiges of Slavery which may exist in our country."

And, again: "The Assembly observe, that although in some sections of our country, under certain circumstances, the transfer of slaves may be unavoidable, yet they consider the buying and selling of slaves by way of traffic, and all undue severity in the management of them, as inconsistent with the spirit of the Gospel. And they recommend it to the Presbyteries and sessions under their care, to make use of all prudent measures to

prevent such shameful and unrighteous conduct." See Digest, pp. 339, 340, 341.

2. *Resolved*, That this General Assembly re-affirm the opinions expressed by the General Assembly of 1818. The following extracts are commended to special notice:

"We consider the voluntary enslaving of one part of the human race by another, as a gross violation of the most precious and sacred rights of human nature, as utterly inconsistent with the law of God, which requires us to love our neighbor as ourselves, and as totally irreconcilable with the spirit and principles of the Gospel of Christ, which enjoins that 'all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.' Slavery creates a paradox in the moral system; it exhibits rational, accountable and immortal beings in such circumstances, as scarcely to leave them the power of moral action. It exhibits them as dependent on the will of others, whether they shall receive religious instruction; whether they shall know and worship the true God; whether they shall enjoy the ordinances of the Gospel; whether they shall perform the duties and cherish the endearments of husbands and wives, parents and children, neighbors and friends; whether they shall preserve their chastity and purity, or regard the dictates of justice and humanity. Such are some of the consequences of Slavery, consequences not imaginary, but which connect themselves with its very existence." [187]

Again: "From this view of the consequences resulting from the practice into which Christian people have most inconsistently fallen, of enslaving a portion of their brethren of mankind,—for 'God hath made of one blood all nations of men, to dwell on the face of the earth,'—it is manifestly the duty of all Christians who enjoy the light of the present day, when the inconsistency of Slavery, both with the dictates of humanity and religion, has been demonstrated, and is generally seen and acknowledged, to use their honest, earnest and unwearied endeavors to correct the errors of former times, and as speedily as possible to efface this blot on our holy religion, and to obtain the complete abolition of Slavery throughout Christendom, and, if possible, throughout the world."—See Dig., pp. 341, 342, 343.

3. *Resolved*, That we re-affirm the "Declaration of the General Assembly on the subject of Slavery," made in the year 1846. The following sentiments are particularly commended to the serious and prayerful attention of our judicatories and churches:

"The system of Slavery as it exists in these United States, viewed either in the laws of the several States which sanction it, or in its actual operation and results in society, is intrinsically an unrighteous and oppressive system and is opposed to the prescriptions of the law of God, to the spirit and precepts of the Gospel, and to the best interests of humanity."

Again: "But while we believe that many evils, incident to the system, render it important and obligatory to bear testimony against it; yet would we not undertake to determine the degree of moral turpitude on the part of individuals involved by it. This will, doubtless, be found to vary in the sight of God, according to the degree of light and other circumstances pertaining to each. In view of all the embarrassments and obstacles in the way of emancipation, interposed by the statutes of the slaveholding States, and by the social influence affecting the views and conduct of those involved in it, we cannot pronounce a judgment of general and promiscuous condemnation, implying that destitution of Christian principle and feeling, which should exclude from the table of the Lord all who stand in the legal relation of masters to slaves, or justify us in withholding our ecclesiastical and

Christian fellowship from them. We rather sympathize with, and would seek to succor them in their embarrassments, believing that separation and secession, among the churches and their members, are not the methods that God approves and sanctions for the reformation of his Church."—See Minutes of 1846, pp. 28, 29.

4. *Resolved*, That, in the judgment of this Assembly, these declarations of former General Assemblies bear an explicit, frank, honest and honorable testimony against the evils of Slavery, and they ought to be "known and read of all men."

The following principles are clearly stated in the documents above referred to and quoted:—

1. That civil liberty is the right of man, as a rational and moral being.

2. That the institution of Slavery, in the language of a former Assembly, "is intrinsically an unrighteous and oppressive system," and injurious to the highest and best interests of all concerned in it.

3. That it is "the duty of all Christians who enjoy the light of the present day," "to use their honest, earnest and unwearied endeavors," "as [188] speedily as possible to efface this blot on our holy religion, and to obtain the complete abolition of Slavery throughout Christendom, and if possible throughout the world." This General Assembly do most solemnly exhort all under our care to perform this duty, and to be ever ready to make all necessary sacrifices in order to effect a consummation so much to be desired.

4. When circumstances, over which good men have not the control, inevitably prevent the attainment of this ulterior and desirable purpose at once, there are other important duties which cannot be neglected without great guilt; such as a watchful care for the interests of the soul, direct religious instruction, and the communication of that practical knowledge of life and its objects, which may prepare this portion of our fellow-men for "the exercise and enjoyment of liberty, when God in his providence may open a door for their emancipation."

5. There are incidental evils which belong to this system, which, when they occur in the Church, should be corrected by discipline; such as "buying and selling of slaves, by way of traffic, and all undue severity in the management of them." To these may be added the breaking up of the family relationships, and separating husbands and wives, parents and children; "thus rendering it impossible for rational, moral and immortal beings to perform the duties and cherish the endearments of social life."

All these things are fairly and fully presented in the declarations of preceding Assemblies, and quite as explicitly before the division of the Presbyterian Church, as since.

5. *Resolved*, That, while we bear this testimony against the system of Slavery as it exists in this country and elsewhere, and which testimony coincides with the almost uniform testimony of all good men in every age, and especially with that borne by the fathers of the Presbyterian Church to which we have herein referred, and while we commend these declarations of sentiment to the attention of all the judicatories, and all the churches under our care, we feel ourselves bound to add, that there has been no information before this Assembly to prove, that members of our Church in the Slave-States, are not doing all that they can, (situated as they are in the providence of God,) to bring about the possession and enjoyment of liberty by the enslaved; nor are there any facts before us, to show that they are living in the violation of the duties growing out of their relations to Slavery as it is continued in existence by the laws of their respective States; nor do we know that they tolerate any of those evils which ought to call forth the

discipline of the Church: but if there are such cases, we would direct the attention of the proper judicatories to them, in the exercise of a kind and salutary discipline.

Commending these views to the consideration of all under our care, and especially of those whose lot is cast where the institution of Slavery exists, and which the smallness of their numbers forbids us to suppose they have the power of controlling, we leave this whole matter with God and the consciences of all those that love his blessed cause.

A written report of the attendance of the Rev. Selden Haynes, Delegate from the last Assembly to the General Association of Connecticut, and of [189] his colleagues, and of their cordial reception by the Association, was presented and accepted.

The Assembly, having ascertained that the Presbytery of La Porte had been dissolved by the Synod of Indiana, ordered it to be stricken from the Roll.

The claim of William M. Meredith, Esq., for legal services, was referred to the Stated Clerk to correspond with Mr. Meredith, and report to the next General Assembly.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of the preparation of a new Digest, reported that they could not learn that any progress had been made in this matter by the Committee who were appointed for this purpose by a former Assembly:

That it is desirable that a new and more complete Digest should be prepared; and that a Committee be appointed to accomplish this object.

The plan which has seemed to them most likely to be useful, is to publish a volume containing the text of our Standards, with marginal notes, exhibiting, in the proper place, the history of the changes in the Constitution, and the various acts of General Assemblies explanatory of our Standards; the whole forming a complete commentary on the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

The report was adopted; and the Rev. Messrs. E. F. Hatfield, S. T. Spear, and A. E. Campbell were appointed to prepare such a volume.

The janitor's bill of $27.62½ was ordered to be paid.

The bill of Mr. W. F. Geddes, for printing the Roll, amounting to $8.00, was ordered to be paid.

The salaries of the Stated and Permanent Clerks were ordered to be paid.

The thanks of the Assembly were tendered to the Trustees of the First Presbyterian church of Philadelphia, for the use of their house of worship during this meeting; and also to the families of this city who have so kindly, and with such readiness, extended to us their hospitality.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for dissolving the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved; and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the city of Detroit, Michigan, at such place as the Committee of Arrangements shall designate, on the third Thursday of May, A. D., 1850, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

E. W. GILBERT,
Permanent Clerk.

Philadelphia, May 25th, 1849.

APPENDIX.

TRIENNIAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1849.

In giving our attention to the progress and state of religion within our bounds, we are looking to the very ends and objects of our organization as a Christian society. Christ gave himself for us, that he might purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. And it is only as we witness piety in our churches, and an active spirit of holy benevolence, leading believers to hold their souls, bodies, and property, subject to Christ for the conversion of the world, that we can take complacency in regarding our system or its operations.

In reviewing the reports which have come up from our Presbyteries, and considering them in the light of the spiritual dearth and extensive defections which have been lamented in some past years, we cannot but find occasion for thankfulness to Almighty God, and congratulation among ourselves, in the degree of vital prosperity which has been vouchsafed us.

These reports tell us of revivals, with greater or less power, in some few churches in every part of the land; of grateful refreshings from on high within the bounds of nearly all our Presbyteries; of accessions to the body of disciples; of new churches organized; of feeble churches strengthened; of pastors settled; of new temples dedicated to the worship of the King of heaven; of increased attendance on the stated means of grace; of an enlarging sympathy with the benevolent movements of the day, and a corresponding increase of contributions to the various Christian charities. Many reports certify us of improved attention to catechetical instruction in the moral training of the young; of greater faithfulness and firmness in the administration of the discipline of Christ's house; of divisions healed; of union strengthened; of growing confidence in our standards of doctrine and polity; and of prevalent harmony and peace.

These are testimonies which come up to us, not from one or a few points, but from many points. They gladden us in reading the large majority of reports; and are limited to no sections of the land. They show us that God hath not forgotten to be gracious: nor in his anger entirely shut up his tender mercies from our Zion. They warrant us in pronouncing the past period one of decided advance in the real interests of the Church—of advance in the number of churches—in the membership of our churches and their religious culture; and in approximation to that unity of opinion and sympathy so indispensable to the successful working of any social organization. We do not rejoice, however, in these things chiefly as fruits, but rather as constituting the preparation and offering the promise of more abundant and blessed things, that we shall in due time reap if we faint not.

We think we are justified in encouraging one another, and sending out to our churches an encouragement, to look upon the future as colored with the hope of a spiritual harvest; not a hope resting upon the naked assurance that God's cause shall ultimately triumph against every obstacle, but a hope drawing life from the present aspect of the Divine providences in the midst of us, and looking to early triumphs of his powerful grace.

The slight refreshings already enjoyed in so many quarters, have but increased the longings and prayers of his children for more copious showers of heaven. The reports of them have evidently awakened other portions of

the Church to a keener sense of the dearth under which they have pined; and all have been aided to the exercise of confidence in the readiness of our Divine Head to bless them that call upon him.

The increasing order, pacification and general outward improvement, point the same way; for they indicate a special favoring providence, and the presence with us of a Divine energy. That so subtle an adversary as Satan, with such complete appliances at his command, has not succeeded to continue or multiply contentions, alienations and schisms, in a protracted season of spiritual declension, but that, on the contrary, such evils should be abating, cannot be attributed to the intelligence or virtue of God's people, but it stands a precious token of the present active favor of our gracious God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. It is an earnest of those more impressive blessings for which we look, for which we long, and for which we would pray without ceasing.

So also the increased attention to the indoctrination of the young with the treasures of Scriptural truth embodied in our catechisms, and a more systematic communication of doctrinal instruction in the Bible class and from the pulpit, which are extensively noticed, direct us plainly to the means by which we may expect the Holy Ghost to convert and sanctify the rising generation.

While such are the favorable aspects of things presented by the numerous Presbyterial reports that have come in, we have occasion for sorrow that from one or two quarters we receive few or none of these cheering tokens. All likewise lament the degree of apathy to spiritual things which prevails. All complain of the power of worldliness within the Church, and the intensity of worldliness out of the Church; of the small number of those who live as if Christ lived in them. Though many churches have been strengthened and established, very many still continue feeble. Though many pastors have been settled, and many churches supplied with the stated ordinances of the gospel, alas! many little flocks have no shepherd to watch over them, and to feed them with the bread of life. Though numerous pleasant houses of worship have been built, still numerous are the societies which have no tabernacle for their "ark and tables of covenant, and altar of incense," and wherein they may present their social offerings to God. Though enlarged contributions through different channels are reported, Oh! how urgent are the calls, how importunate the appeals which still come, in the name of the Lord, for the gold and the silver, as well as the prayers of the Church. Many of the Presbyteries in the South and West make emphatic mention of their extended and whitening fields, together with the utter inadequacy of the few laborers employed for the burdens of the day.

The relative destitution within our bounds seems to threaten an alarming increase; on the one hand, from the sudden expansion of our national territory, with the influx and spread of population; and, on the other hand, from the want (so far as we have evidence) of sufficiently extended and systematic endeavors to raise up among our youth a generation of prophets, to add to the number and take the places of those now in the field. And in this connection we would arrest the attention of all our churches to the duty of giving more earnest attention to the piety of their children, and selecting qualified individuals, and training them up as candidates for the sacred ministry.

We would not overlook in this narrative the interesting fact furnished us in the reports of our Southern Presbyteries, that a greatly increased attention is given to the religious interests of the colored people within their bounds. While their condition has of late years awakened an active sym-

pathy throughout the land. it is with lively satisfaction we learn that increasing attention is given to their instruction in the wonderful things of God's holy word, and that the labor bestowed has already been blessed to multitudes of hopeful conversions among them. We hail these facts as part of a providential preparation of the race for a sober, intelligent and wise use of that civil liberty, to which we have so many indications to persuade us, the Divine Governor designs to introduce them at no distant day.

We occupy an interesting era. The Almighty is shaking the earth. The movements of his providence are with a suddenness and rapidity that surprise us, in anxious expectations of the immediate future. Every day the position of the Church of God on the earth, and our American Church in particular, is becoming more responsible and critical. The walls which have so long shut in the millions of the remote East from the influence of Western ideas, are falling down; the masses of the heathen are losing confidence in their hoary superstitions; the transatlantic nations are agitated and tossed like vessels in a storm; their common mind has become awaked, and is heaving under and breaking through the old incrustations with which it has for centuries been confined, and seems ready to take new forms; the arts and sciences, in their rapid advance, are multiplying and perfecting the instruments of mind, increasing the energies of its movements, and extending the circles of its power at home. The war, whose prevalence at the time of the meeting of our last Assembly, alarmed us with apprehensions of judgments from Him who hath forbidden the shedding of blood, has in mercy been directed away; but its results, concurring with other causes, have revealed to this nation an emergency requiring the application of all her political energy, to maintain her stability under the moving tides of population sweeping through her extended boundaries; while the stimulus to ambition and covetousness furnished by the events of the past and present, have given energy to all the passions of our people.

Here in this interesting period of the world, and in this interesting part of the world, stands our beloved Zion—requiring all the earnestness of purpose, all the wisdom to direct, and all the power to work, which can be at her command. A world in its birth at our own doors, requiring to be baptized with the Gospel, and admitting no delay; the old nations of Christendom abandoning self-confidence, and in their perplexities looking to us for instruction in that liberty wherewith Christ can make a people free; and the whole heathen world lifting up their cry, "Come over and help us." How shall we meet our responsibilities? How shall we seem equal to the emergency which the Lord God has raised for us? How, but by seeking for ourselves a more entire consecration than we have yet known to the service of Him who has bought this world with his blood, and by all these movements is preparing to subdue it to his sway? How, but by seeking a baptism of the Holy Ghost—a baptism of power, which shall multiply our power, by multiplying our faith, and prayer, and spirit of self-denial, which shall bring us into such intimate union with Christ, that we may feel and make it manifest that we "can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth" us?

We therefore exhort each other, and exhort all the ministers, and elders, and members throughout our bounds, to study to prepare themselves for the claims of Christ upon them at this time; to study to be more holy, more zealous, more laborious, more earnest, in every good word and work.

To the ministry of the Church, the admonition to work diligently while the day lasts comes with peculiar impressiveness, from the fact that so large a number of our fellow-laborers have been called to their reward since the

last Assembly. We are called to record the death of 48 ministers of our Church, viz.:

DEATHS OF MINISTERS.

Stephen Ellis,	of the Presbytery of	Delaware,
Reuel Kimball,	"	Watertown,
Moses Gillett,	"	Utica,
Abijah Crane,	"	"
Seth Smith,	"	Cayuga,
Lemuel W. Hamblin,	"	"
Lucas Hubbell,	"	Geneva,
George W. Gridley,	"	"
Joseph Merrill,	"	"
Benjamin Bailey,	"	"
Lewis B. Howell,	"	"
Henry Ford,	"	Pennsylvania,
Gilbert Crawford,	"	Genesee,
Eber Child,	"	"
Norris Bull, D. D.,	"	Rochester,
Joshua Lane,	"	Buffalo,
Abiel Parmelee,	"	"
Asa T. Hopkins, D. D.,	"	"
George Coan,	"	"
Daniel Brown,	"	North River,
Jonathan Robinson,	"	Long Island,
Caleb Strong,	"	New York, Third,
Theodore S. Wright,	"	" "
George Monilaws,	"	" "
Ebenezer Mason,	"	" "
Wm. J. Armstrong, D. D.,	"	" Fourth,
Daniel T. Bagg,	"	" "
Daniel de F. Ely,	"	Brooklyn,
William R. Weeks, D. D.,	"	Newark,
Humphrey M. Perrine,	"	"
John M. Bear,	"	Philadelphia, Fourth,
Everson Judson,	"	Huron,
Ferris Fitch,	"	Elyria,
Julius Steele,	"	St. Joseph,
Solomon Kittredge,	"	Salem,
William Chamberlain,	"	Alton,
Jason Chapin,	"	Knox,
Elisha H. Hazard,	"	Galena,
Nathaniel B. Dodge,	"	Osage,
Alexander Mebane,	"	Hanover,
George A. Davis,	"	"
James M. Kimball,	"	"
John B. Meek,	"	Kingston,
David H. Mason,	"	Chattahoochee,
Charles Phillips,	"	Harmony,
Alexander W. Campbell,	"	Green River,
Thomas H. Parrish,	"	Shiloh,
Ebenezer McEwen,	"	N. Alabama.

How impressively do these brethren, being dead, speak to us, "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."

"Blessed is that servant whom his Lord, when he cometh, shall find so doing."

By order of the General Assembly.

PHILIP C. HAY, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

Philadelphia, May 25th, 1849.

REVISION OF THE STANDARDS.*

Report of the Committee on the Alterations in the Constitution.

The Committee appointed by the last General Assembly, at their sessions in Cincinnati, "to investigate and report in detail the entire history of the provisions of the Assembly and the Presbyteries, and the Committee *ad interim*, in reference to the elementary and verbal alterations in the Constitution of the Church," respectfully beg leave to report, as follows:—* * * * The Assembly of 1839, as appears from the Records, raised a Committee on the State of the Church, consisting of "Dr. Hill, Dr. Mason, Dr. Stone, Mr. Lathrop, and Judge Darling," who, on Friday, May 24th, presented a report, which, having been laid on the table at the time, was taken up on Tuesday, the 28th, and adopted after amendment, as follows:

"The Committee on the State of the Church, having had before them sundry petitions and memorials, requesting a modification of our present ecclesiastical organization, recommend that the following Overtures be sent down to the Presbyteries for their action:—

1. Shall the Constitution be so amended as to limit the power of the General Assembly, and make the Synods in all cases the courts of ultimate appeal and final authoritative jurisdiction; and the General Assembly an advisory council for all the churches?

2. Shall the Constitution be so amended as to require the General Assembly to hold its sessions triennially, as a bond of union between the churches, retaining its present functions, with the exceptions specified in the first Overture?

3. Shall the last Moderator and the Stated and Permanent Clerks be empowered to call a *pro re nata* meeting of the General Assembly, in case of any emergency, which in their opinion solemnly demands such meeting: Providing that four full months shall intervene between the call and the time of holding such meeting?

The Committee further recommend that, should the Presbyteries agree to the amendments above proposed, the next General Assembly make the arrangement of Synods and fix the ratio of representation best adapted to the organization of the Church as thus modified. The plan which best commends itself to the minds of the Committee is substantially that proposed, in the year 1832, by the Rev. Dr. Alexander, and published in the Princeton *Biblical Repertory*, vol. iv. of the new series, pp. 28–47."

The Overtures, it will be seen, were but three in number, and of a general character; proposing radical changes in the principles of order, but not specifying how many alterations it would be necessary to make in the phraseology of the formulas, nor in what parts of the Book, nor in what words, as had been done in every previous instance in which the Constitution had been altered. These Overtures to the Presbyteries were accompanied with a recommendation respecting the action of the next General Assembly, relative to some alteration in "the arrangement of Synods," and "the ratio of repre-

* Published, but not adopted. The reprint begins with the year 1839.—W. H. R.

sentation," in case the three Overtures should be affirmed by the Presbyteries. The very terms of the report of the Committee on the State of the Church, as adopted by the Assembly, showed that nothing more was meant to be submitted to the Presbyteries than the amendments proposed in the three Overtures.

The Assembly of 1840, on the first day of their sessions, appointed a Committee on "the Polity of the Church," consisting of "Dr. Hill, Dr. Cox, Dr. Hay, and Messrs. Kirk, Leach, Richards, and Naudain," to whom were referred "the reports of the several Presbyteries on amending the Constitution of the Church." The Committee subsequently presented a report, which, after amendment, was adopted, and is as follows:

"1. That the Overtures sent down to the Presbyteries, by the Assembly of 1839, have been affirmed in the responses, all three of them; there being 59 affirmatives for the first Overture, 57 for the second, and for the third 44.

The whole number of our Presbyteries last year was 85, of which, consequently, the lowest majority is 43; and this number the Committee have therefore assumed as their criterion of the majority, according to the words of the Constitution. See Form of Government, Chapter XII. section 17.

2. That the paragraph appended to the Overtures having been also affirmed by 49 votes, the Committee have digested their results accordingly, and recommend that the Assembly now rule and ordain the following changes in the polity of the Presbyterian Church in these United States, viz.:—

(1.) That the ratio of Presbyterial representation be reduced to its minimum, altering our Form of Government, (Chapter XII. section 2,) so that said section shall be hereafter alone, and in all, and read as follows, viz.: 'The General Assembly shall consist of an equal delegation of bishops and ruling elders from the Presbyteries, in the simple proportion of one minister and one elder from each Presbytery. And these Commissioners, so appointed, shall be styled "Commissioners to the General Assembly."'

(2.) That section 7 of the same Chapter be so altered in its first sentence as to read as follows, viz.:—'The General Assembly shall meet triennially, or once in three years, and ordinarily on the third Thursday of the month of May in every third year.'

(3.) That section 8 of the same be so practically modified, and every other part and provision of the Constitution with it conformably, that the present changes, as herein above specified, shall be maintained inviolate, and shall go into full force and operation as the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America."

The Committee, in drawing up their history of this transaction, have consulted the files of the Assembly, and obtained the original reports from the Presbyteries, as they were presented by the Commissioners. They found that not less than fifteen of these reports were irregular; some of them had been certified by the proper person, but did not exhibit anything more than the fact that the Presbytery had answered in a particular manner; some were certificates of the same kind, signed by one or more of the Commissioners only, and not by the Moderator or Clerk of the Presbytery; several of them are in pencil marks only; two of them are without any signature at all; one says, that his Presbytery "voted in favor of a re-organization;" two of them affirm that their Presbyteries had taken no action, but one says they "are in favor of change," and the other that he presumes their action would be in the affirmative; while yet another says, "I will assume the responsibility of answering for the Presbytery to No. 2 in the affirmative." Now, as one of these Overtures received only one more than the requisite number

of voices in its favor, it is really questionable whether that number, made up as it must have been in part, by uncertified documents of the most irregular character, was constitutionally ascertained to have been given. In fact, the manuscript copy of the report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church shows, that they had at first supposed, that "the third Overture was lost for want of two more affirmatives."

It further appears from an examination of these Presbyterial reports, that they make mention of only three Overtures; and that only two of these reports make any allusion at all to the recommendation attached to the Overtures, of which there is no evidence on record that it was sent down to the Presbyteries for their action, but the contrary. One of these two is an irregular report, signed by the Commissioners of the Presbytery, that affirms of the Presbytery that they respond in the affirmative, not only to the three Overtures, but to "the reduction of the ratio of representation of the Presbyteries to its minimum;" of which we can find no mention at all in the recommendation of the Assembly. Your Committee are entirely at a loss to understand by what process it was ascertained, "that the paragraph appended to the Overtures had been affirmed by 49 votes," when but two of the Presbyterial Reports made any allusion to it whatever.

The proposition, therefore, to alter for the fourth time the ratio of representation, has never been submitted to the Presbyteries; or if submitted has never been acted upon save in two instances, so far as appears from the files of the Assembly. But, as the ratio was fixed by a constitutional rule, it could only be altered by the affirmative action of a majority of the Presbyteries; which action was never taken in regard to this particular alteration of the rule.

The Assembly of 1840, however, proceeded to "rule and ordain"—"that the ratio of Presbyterial representation be reduced to its minimum," and to specify how the altered rule should be worded. If it be allowed that this rule had been constitutionally overtured, it does not appear that such an alteration as this had been proposed at all, but an entirely different one "proposed in the year 1832, by the Rev. Dr. Alexander." This recommendation was wholly set aside, and an arrangement adopted of quite another nature. Your Committee, therefore, are constrained to judge, that the action of the Assembly of 1840, in establishing a new ratio of representation, was altogether unconstitutional; can, and ought to be annulled by the Assembly; that the true ratio of representation, according to the Constitution, is that fixed by the Assembly of 1833; and that this ratio can be altered only by Overtures to the Presbyteries.

In their second enactment, the Assembly of 1840, on the recommendation of their Committee, proceeded to specify what words shall be inserted in the Constitution, in relation to the frequency of Assemblies, in which words they also declare at what time each Assembly shall (ordinarily) meet; establishing thus a Constitutional Rule in relation to the time, without having consulted the Presbyteries on the subject.

But the greatest difficulty growing out of these changes arises from the peculiar ordinance of the Assembly in their third enactment. This is truly a sweeping ordinance—a searching ordinance. It subjects one particular section, "and every other part and provision of the Constitution," to an inquisitorial and amendatory operation, the like of which had never before, in the whole history of the Church, been thought of. But by whom the work should be done, not one word is said. We have no hesitation in saying how and by whom it ought to have been done. The Presbyteries having expressed themselves in favor of the principle of these changes, a wise, care-

ful, and accurate Committee should have been appointed by the Assembly of 1840, to examine the Constitution, and report to the Assembly what changes, *totidem verbis*, it would be necessary to make, in order to engraft the principal of these Overtures upon our system of order and discipline. Such a work, it must be obvious, requires nice discrimination, rigid supervision, great accuracy, and final authoritative affirmation: a work which no previous General Assembly had executed without subjecting it in its complete and finished form, to the judgment of the Presbyteries. When, therefore, the Committee had accomplished their task, it should have been submitted to the Assembly for their revision, and then sent down to the Presbyteries, to give them an opportunity to determine, as in all previous cases, whether they were satisfied or not with the phraseology proposed to be substituted for that which they had formerly approved. The delay of a single year would have effected the change in an orderly manner, and obviated all the difficulty which has since been experienced in this connection.

In what other way can a principle, however unanimously approved, be converted into Constitutional Rules? Before such rules can be binding, or before any rules can become constitutional, even when "proposed by the Assembly," it shall be necessary to transmit them to all the Presbyteries, and to receive the returns of at least a majority of them in writing, approving thereof. The Rules themselves must be transmitted, else they are not "obligatory on the churches."

The Assembly of 1840, however, determined the case differently. They had appointed a "Committee *ad interim*," consisting of eight ministers and five elders; and "*Resolved* further, that the subject of publishing our Standards, with our form of Government and Book of Discipline, as now adopted by the Assembly, be referred to the Consulting Committee," *i. e.* the "Committee *ad interim*." It does not appear that any other provision was made for the proper and orderly alteration of our Constitutional Rules than this reference. The "Consulting Committee" were to do it, to make the changes requisite, erase, annul, modify, and wholly change those ancient rules, which had been adopted with so much care, word by word, by a constitutional majority of the whole Church, represented in their Presbyteries. They were also to add, as well as subtract, to an extent not previously known or prescribed, save by a general principle, in the application of which so much honest difference of opinion might well be entertained. And all this the Committee were to do on their own responsibility; not to report these particular changes to the next Assembly, but to alter, publish, and authenticate. A most strange proceeding, indeed! A report of their proceedings, it is true, was to be made at the expiration of the term of their appointment; but not until nearly three years after the revised Constitution was to go forth to the churches, as the authentic standard of faith and order.

The report of the Committee was submitted to the Assembly of 1843, and their proceedings approved. But not a word is put on record, from which it can be learned what changes were made by them in the Constitution, or in what manner. Your Committee have ascertained that this part of their work was intrusted, by the Committee *ad interim*, to a sub-committee of two individuals, and published without even submitting them to the inspection of the whole Committee.

The following extracts from the minutes of the Committee *ad interim* contain the whole record of their agency in effecting these alterations. At a meeting of the Committee, in the city of New York, November 6th, 1840, (present, three ministers and two elders,) "the subject of publishing an edition of the Confession of Faith and Form of Government was referred to

Messrs. Cox and Mason, with power." At a subsequent meeting in Philadelphia, May 22d, 1841, "the Committee on publishing the Confession of Faith and Form of Government reported progress, and were continued." Finally, at a meeting of the Committee in Philadelphia, May 19th, 1842, "the Committee on publishing the Confession of Faith and Form of Government of the General Assembly reported, that the Form of Government, containing the last alterations of the Constitution, has been published, and is for sale at the bookstores; which report was accepted."

Whether alterations thus effected are to be regarded as Constitutional Rules, or not, is respectfully submitted to the judgment of the Assembly.

What these alterations were, can be learned only by a comparison of the present revised edition with those published previous to 1840. That the Assembly may pass judgment on them, they are herewith presented.

1. In F. of Gov., Chap. XI., p. 372, a new section, numbered IV., has been introduced, and is as follows:—"IV. The Synod is the court of the last resort in all cases of a judicial nature, so that the whole appellate jurisdiction of the Church is limited to its final decision as a Provincial Assembly; having supreme control in its own appropriate sphere, though subordinate to the General Assembly as to the review and constitutional oversight of its acts." The introduction of this section seems not to have been warranted by any ordinance of the Assembly, who simply directed a modification of existing rules, not the introduction of new ones. It can, in no sense, be regarded as a Constitutional Rule. It owes all its authority to the Assembly of 1840, acting through its Commission, and may be displaced by any subsequent Assembly. Before it can become "obligatory on the churches," it must be submitted, word by word, to the judgment of the Presbyteries, and receive their approbation.

2. In F. of Gov., Chap. XI., p. 373, the word, "triennially" has been substituted for the word "annually," in sec. VII.

3. In F. of Gov., Chap. XII., p. 374, section II. has been altered so as to read as follows:—"The General Assembly shall consist of an equal delegation of bishops and elders, in the simple proportion of one minister and one elder from each Presbytery; and these Delegates so appointed shall be styled, "Commissioners to the General Assembly." In respect to this change, your Committee have already remarked, that nothing of the kind had ever been constitutionally submitted to the Presbyteries. Its original has been found in an anonymous Overture reported to the Assembly of 1839, by their Committee on Bills and Overtures, as "No. 16, on the basis of Representation, which was read, and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church," by whom no further notice appears to have been taken of it. Yet this Overture, thus neglected and set aside by the Assembly of 1839, in favor of a very different basis, is by the Assembly of 1840 transformed into a Constitutional Rule. The Assembly directed that this section should be modified in accordance with this anonymous Overture. The Committee *ad interim*, however, in making the change, departed in some particulars from the form of words ordained by the Assembly, omitting the word "ruling" before "elders," and the clause "from the Presbyteries," after the same word, and changing the word "Commissioners" into "Delegates."

4. In F. of Gov., Chap. XII., sec. IV., p. 374, the word "questions," has been substituted for the words "appeals and references." It may be doubted whether this substitution does not unduly restrict the powers of the Assembly.

5. In F. of Gov., Chap. XII., sec. V., p. 375, a proviso has been introduced, which is liable to the same objections as have been made relative to

the change on p. 372. It is as follows:—Provided, that all these powers and relations of the Assembly shall be construed as exclusive of all the proper appellate jurisdiction of the Church, in cases of a judicial nature; such jurisdiction being limited to the Synods, as Provincial Assemblies, charged with their final adjudication and decision, according to the Constitution." It is sufficient to say of this proviso, that it was never before the Assembly, much less had it been constitutionally submitted, word by word, to the Presbyteries. Introduced on the sole authority of one Assembly, it may and should be excluded by another. It cannot be "obligatory on the churches," as they have never made it a Constitutional Rule.

6. In F. of Gov., Chap. XII., sec. VII., p. 375, the clause "once in every year," has been altered so as to read "triennially, or once in every third year." In the ordinance of the Assembly of 1840, the original words "at least" were omitted; the Committee retained them. The Assembly directed that the remainder of the sentence should read "triennially, or once in three years;" the Committee made it read "triennially, or once in every third year." The Assembly had ordered the introduction of the clause, "and ordinarily on the third Thursday of the month of May, in every third year;" the Committee omitted this clause altogether.

7. In F. of Gov., Chap. XII., the Assembly of 1840 had ordered that section VIII. "should be modified." It has remained unaltered, except in the change of its number from VIII. to IX., while an entirely new section has been inserted in its former place, as follows: "VIII. The last Moderator, with the concurrence of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, is empowered to call a *pro re nata* meeting of the General Assembly, in case of any emergency, which, in their opinion, solemnly demands such meeting; provided, that four full months shall intervene between the call and the time of holding such meeting; which Assembly shall be considered as the same with the previous one, having been dissolved conditionally and in view of such possible emergency as that by which it is recalled; and which ought, as far as practicable, to consist of the same Commissioners." By a reference to the overture of the Assembly of 1839, No. 3, (of the constitutional passage of which serious doubt is entertained, as already suggested,) it will be seen that the power of calling a *pro re nata* meeting was to be entrusted to "the last Moderator and the Stated and Permanent Clerks." In the formula introduced by the Committee *ad interim*, the power is given to "the last Moderator with the concurrence of the Stated and Permanent Clerks." The latter part of the section, beginning with "which Assembly," is entirely new matter, never submitted to the Presbyteries, and not even ordered by the Assembly, having not the slightest claim to be regarded as a Constitutional Rule, and should be excluded until properly authorized.

8. In B. of Discipline, Chap. VII., p 413, a proviso has been added to paragraph II., as follows:—"Provided that the supreme appellate jurisdiction of the Synod be constitutionally maintained."

9. In B. of D., Chap. VII., section II., pp. 416, 417, paragraph X., has been added as follows: "References to the General Assembly may be made for advice and counsel, or for interpretation of constitutional or judicial law; but not for judicial trial or decision, since it has in such cases no appellate jurisdiction." In reference to these last two changes, it may be said, that the definition of the powers of the Assembly is so nice a matter, and of such vital importance to the welfare of the Church, as to demand that all Rules affecting these powers, and all changes in existing Rules, should be submitted, word by word, to the judgment of the Presbyteries for their approval, before their incorporation into the Constitution.

It is also to be observed, that some passages in the Constitution have been overlooked, which are inconsistent with these changes; *e. g.*: In B. of D., Chap. VII., section I., par. I., p. 414, we are told that "it is the duty of every judicatory above a church-session, at least once a year, to review the records of the proceedings of the judicatory next below." Of course this rule has been violated in the case of the General Assembly, ever since 1840, except in two instances. B. of D., Chap. VII., section III., par. II., p. 417, provides that "all persons who have submitted to a regular trial in an inferior, may appeal to a higher judicatory." This is evidently inconsistent with the termination of appeals at the Synods.

CONCLUSION.

In thus freely exhibiting and commenting upon the changes made in the Constitution by the Assembly of 1840, and their Commission, your Committee have not the slightest intention or thought of impeaching the motives of any by whose agency these changes were effected. The Assembly of 1839, in proposing the Overtures which have resulted in these difficulties, were unquestionably actuated by a sincere wish to bring about a long-desired reform. The Assembly of 1840 also endeavored to carry out the will of the Presbyteries, and properly to digest and codify the new principles of order which the Presbyteries had approved; while the Committee *ad interim*, with much self-denying, arduous and unrequited labor, strove faithfully to perform the responsible duty intrusted to their hands. The confusion and difficulty in which the whole matter is involved, are mainly to be ascribed, as already intimated, to the defective manner in which the original overtures of the Assembly of 1839 were framed. Instead of proposing the very language which it would be necessary to introduce into the Constitution, in every particular case, in order fully and conformably to engraft the principles of these Overtures upon the Constitution, the naked and abstract question of principle only was proposed.

Every attempt to remedy this primary defect has but increased the difficulty. The Presbyteries will not receive as Constitutional Rules such regulations as have been incorporated into our standards without the individual approbation, in the case of every Rule, of a majority of their whole number. The only practical course that remains is to return to the long-established and constitutional mode. In case of the determination of a majority of the Presbyteries to return to annual Assemblies, nothing more will be requisite in that particular than to restore the former language of the Book. Otherwise, it will be necessary to send down to the Presbyteries an Overture to alter the article that makes it the duty of the General Assembly to review the records of Synods "at least once a year," p. 414, in the words following:—

Shall the first sentence, of the first paragraph, of section first, of Chapter VII., Book of Discipline, be altered so as to read—"It shall be the duty of every judicatory above a church-session, with the exception of the General Assembly, to review the records of the proceedings of the judicatory next below, at least once a year; and, in the case of the General Assembly, at least once in every third year?"

In relation to the new matter, already mentioned, your Committee would recommend that it be stricken out, as it has never been constitutionally adopted; and that a Committee be appointed to examine what part of the Constitution, as it was previous to these alterations, needs to be altered, and how, in order to conform the Book more perfectly to our present system of

appeals and complaints, and to frame an exact series of overtures, covering all those cases, to be submitted to the Presbyteries.

In the judgment of your Committee, four overtures are all that are necessary for the purpose, and they are prepared to recommend, that they be submitted as follows:

1. Shall F. of Gov., Chap. XII., sec. 4, be altered so as to omit the words —"appeals and"—before the word—"references"?

2. Shall B. of Dis., Chap. VII., sec. 2, be altered so as to insert the words, —"the General Assembly and the Synod in judicial cases,"—instead of the words—"the highest"?

3. Shall B. of Dis., Chap. VII., sec. 3, sub-sec. 2, be altered so as to read —"any judicatory not higher than a Synod,"—instead of—"a higher judicatory"?

4. Shall B. of Dis., Chap. VII., sec. 4, sub-sec. 1, be altered so as to read —"any judicatory inferior to a Synod,"—instead of—"an inferior judicatory"?

If it be judged proper and expedient to retain the provision for *pro re nata* meetings of the Assembly, your Committee would suggest and recommend the transmission to the Presbyteries of an Overture in the words following, viz.:—Shall F. of G., Chap. XII., sec. 8, be altered so as to read—"The last Moderator and the Stated and Permanent Clerks are empowered to call a *pro re nata* meeting of the General Assembly, in case of any emergency, which, in their opinion, demands such a meeting, by circular letter addressed to each of the Presbyteries at least four months before the time of holding such meeting"?

In respect to the ratio of representation, your Committee recommend the restoration of the Rule as it stood before the recent change, inasmuch as it has not been constitutionally annulled; and that an Overture be adopted, if the recent basis of representation be deemed advisable, to be submitted to the Presbyteries, in the words following:—Shall F. of G., Chap. XII. sec. 2, be altered, so as to read—"The General Assembly shall consist of an equal delegation of bishops and elders, one of each from every Presbytery; and these delegates so appointed shall be styled Commissioners to the General Assembly"?

All which is respectfully submitted.

EDWIN F. HATFIELD,
HENRY A. ROWLAND,
JNO. L. MASON,
S. BENJAMIN.

STATISTICAL REPORT

Of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Synods and Presbyteries.

The General Assembly has under its care twenty Synods, comprising one hundred and four Presbyteries, viz.:

1. The Synod of Albany comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: Champlain, Troy, Albany, Columbia, and Delaware.

2. The Synod of Utica comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: St. Lawrence, Watertown, Oswego, Otsego, and Utica.

3. The Synod of Geneva comprises ten Presbyteries, viz.: Onondaga,

Cayuga, Geneva, Cortland, Chenango, Tioga, Bath, Chemung, Ithaca, and Pennsylvania.

4. The Synod of Genesee comprises six Presbyteries, viz.: Genesee, Ontario, Rochester, Niagara, Buffalo, and Angelica.

5. The Synod of New York and New Jersey comprises ten Presbyteries, viz.: Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York 3d, New York 4th, Brooklyn, Newark, Rockaway, Montrose, and San Francisco.

6. The Synod of Pennsylvania comprises four Presbyteries, viz.: Wilmington, Philadelphia 3d, Philadelphia 4th, and Harrisburgh.

7. The Synod of West Pennsylvania comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Erie, Meadville, and Pittsburgh.

8. The Synod of Western Reserve comprises eight Presbyteries, viz.: Grand River, Portage, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland, Medina, Elyria, and Maumee.

9. The Synod of Michigan comprises seven Presbyteries, viz.: Detroit, St. Joseph, Monroe, Marshall, Washtenaw, Kalamazoo, and Ionia.

10. The Synod of Ohio comprises four Presbyteries, viz.: Athens, Pataskala, Franklin, and Scioto.

11. The Synod of Cincinnati comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Cincinnati, Dayton, and Hamilton.

12. The Synod of Indiana comprises seven Presbyteries, viz.: Salem, Madison, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, Logansport, Fort Wayne, and Evansville.

13. The Synod of Illinois comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: Illinois, Schuyler, Palestine, Alton, and Des Moines.

14. The Synod of Peoria comprises six Presbyteries, viz.: Ottawa, Peoria, Knox, Galena, Chicago, and Belvidere.

15. The Synod of Missouri comprises four Presbyteries, viz.: St. Louis, Northern Missouri, Lexington, and Osage.

16. The Synod of Virginia comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Winchester, District of Columbia, and Hanover.

17. The Synod of Tennessee comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: Union, Holston, Kingston, New River, and Chattahoochee.

18. The Synod of Kentucky comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Harmony, Providence, and Green River.

19. The Synod of West Tennessee comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: West Tennessee, Shiloh, and North Alabama.

20. The Synod of Mississippi comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Clinton, S. Lexington, and Newton.

Of these Synods and Presbyteries a more particular view is given in the annexed Schedule.

SUMMARY OF THE TRIENNIAL SCHEDULE.

SYNODICAL ARRANGEMENT.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Ad. Bap.	Inf. Bap.	Comm. Fund.	Contng. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	5	94	2	...	87	263	153	10,658	87	161	$46 00	$18 62	A. Bordman Lambert.
1. Champlain	1814	...	23	...	...	20	77	44	2,623	10	54	.....	5 00	David Dobie.
2. Troy	1820	...	21	...	...	22	45	33	3,036	17	25	.....	.....	A. Bordman Lambert.
3. Albany	1791	...	10	...	...	8	18	22	1,497	6	17	.....	6 12	Thomas S. Wickes.
4. Columbia	1802	...	23	2	...	18	117	43	2,214	50	41	46 00	5 00	Josiah Leonard.
5. Delaware	1831	...	17	...	...	19	6	11	1,288	4	24	.....	2 50	Isaac D. Cornwell.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	5	86	6	...	96	384	574	9,100	105	304	53 25	19 08	George S. Boardman.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	7	...	...	8	33	29	842	10	25	5 00	2 00	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	14	...	...	22	81	97	2,336	34	94	41 00	1 00	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego	1823	...	15	1	...	21	19	72	1,293	1	21	.....	.....	Robert W. Condit, D. D.
4. Otsego	1820	...	14	...	...	20	26	67	1,677	7	50	4 00	5 83	E. Vine Wales.
5. Utica	1842	...	36	5	...	25	225	309	2,952	53	114	3 25	10 25	Samuel W. Bracc.
III. Synod of Geneva	1812	10	199	35	11	198	1,110	1,198	20,845	348	720	184 00	6 30	Vacant.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	34	...	1	27	188	274	3,010	61	100	45 00	6 00	Richard F. Cleaveland.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	34	14	4	25	155	158	2,830	46	97	5 00	.....	Henry A. Nelson.
3. Geneva	1805	...	38	7	1	32	233	269	4,673	70	214	34 29	.....	William Hogarth.
4. Cortland	1825	...	11	...	...	15	.....	.....	1,724	.....	.....	.....	.....	Hercules R. Dunham.
5. Chenango	1826	...	13	2	4	16	66	35	1,689	18	33	32 00	.....	Amos C. Tuttle.
6. Tioga	1829	...	14	1	...	15	123	96	1,967	47	82	.....	.....	David S. Morse.
7. Bath	1817	...	14	1	...	18	82	94	1,487	35	48	15 58	30	Robert E. Willson.
8. Chemung	1836	...	17	1	1	23	75	196	1,352	28	89	.....	.....	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
9. Ithaca	1839	...	13	9	...	14	176	64	1,736	37	51	44 67	.....	Solomon R. Scofield.
10. Pennsylvania	1845	...	11	...	...	13	12	12	377	6	6	7 46	.....	Samuel J. McCullough.
IV. Synod of Genesee	1821	6	130	...	...	133	567	892	15,516	198	475	39 48	2 00	Timothy Stillman.
1. Genesee	1819	...	17	...	...	19	123	113	1,882	49	58	13 14	.....	John B. Preston.
2. Ontario*	1817	...	16	...	...	25	.....	.....	2,831	.....	.....	.....	.....	John Barnard, Jr.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

3. Rochester	1819	...	31	...	...	23	.....	.....	3,662	.....	.....	.....	.....	John B. Richardson.
4. Niagara	1817	...	18	...	...	14	88	209	2,007	29	143	26 34	.....	William N. McHarg.
5. Buffalo	1823	...	38	...	...	33	356	570	3,279	120	274	.....	2 00	Timothy Stillman.
6. Angelica*	1828	...	10	...	...	19	.....	.....	1,855	.....	.....	.....	.....	Joel Wakeman.
V. Synod of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	10	182	34	17	125	1,890	2,342	22,249	508	1653	196 70	107 10	William B. Lewis.
1. Hudson	1797	...	14	...	2	12	71	88	1,690	37	113	10 00	10 00	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	13	2	2	14	185	108	1,736	83	85	25 80	11 00	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	11	...	...	6	109	38	621	50	58	16 00	2 25	George F. Wiswell.
4. New York, Third	1831	...	33	10	6	14	465	713	4,933	116	541	52 00	60 00	Edwin F. Hatfield.
5. New York, Fourth	1845	...	23	17	2	12	296	379	3,047	52	98	.....	.....	Erskine Mason, D. D.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	20	2	3	7	217	330	2,034	16	106	.....	.....	Jonathan M. Rowland.
7. Newark	1824	...	28	2	2	16	279	411	3,579	71	471	70 00	18 25	Ebenezer Seymour.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	17	...	...	18	113	110	2,475	41	42	22 90	5 60	Joel Campbell.
9. Montrose	1832	...	20	1	...	26	155	165	2,134	42	139	.....	.....	Adam Miller.
10. San Francisco	1849	...	3											
VI. Synod of Pennsylvania	1838	4	69	7	3	60	1,147	665	10,917	277	1070	138 08	84 50	John L. Grant.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	13	...	...	14	80	71	1,158	27	60	13 75	.....	J. Edson Rockwell.
2. Philadelphia, Third	1832	...	18	3	2	15	393	161	3,548	99	502	.....	.....	John Crowell.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth	1845	...	25	4	1	22	586	369	5,131	139	392	94 33	77 50	Charles Brown.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	13	...	...	9	88	64	1,082	12	116	30 00	7 00	Daniel H. Emerson.
VII. Synod of West Penn	1843	3	23	...	1	35	272	194	2,574	60	264	46 24	5 00	George A. Lyon.
1. Erie	1801	...	8	...	...	14	96	82	1,054	34	86	29 83	2 00	Pierce Chamberlain.
2. Meadville	1842	...	6	...	1	13	68	25	765	12	63	16 41	3 00	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	9	...	...	8	108	87	755	14	115	.....	.....	Nathaniel West.
VIII. Synod of W. Reserve	1825	8	140	16	1	130	223	434	8,713	42	268	38 98	7 25	William Hanford.
1. Grand River*	1814	...	19	...	...	18	.....	.....	1,271	.....	.....	.....	.....	Alanson Saunders.
2. Portage	1818	...	30	7	1	18	35	36	1,401	4	31	17 25	2 50	William Hanford.
3. Huron	1823	...	20	2	...	22	96	167	1,675	22	115	.....	2 25	Jonathan B. Parlin.
4. Trumbull*	1827	...	17	1	...	20	.....	.....	1,388	.....	.....	....	.....	Charles A. Boardman.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	22	2	...	14	92	231	1,404	16	122	21 73	2 50	Samuel T. Mills.
6. Medina	1836	...	8	...	...	9	.....	.....	*401	.....	.....	.....	.....	Sherman D. Taylor.
7. Elyria*	1842	...	16	3	...	12	.....	.....	705	.....	.....	.....	.....	Alfred H. Betts.
8. Maumee*	1842	...	8	1	...	17	.....	.....	468	.....	.....	.....	.....	E. Richard Tucker.

SYNODICAL ARRANGEMENT.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Ad. Bap.	Inf. Bap.	Comm. Fund.	Conting. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
IX. Synod of Michigan.....	1834	7	93	3	1	116	562	568	7,074	137	380	$108 81	.....	George Duffield, D. D.
1. Detroit.....	1826	...	20	2	...	25	103	145	1,793	12	123	.....	.....	Robert R. Kellogg.
2. St. Joseph.....	1833	...	17	...	1	25	211	158	1,266	62	68	56 00	.....	Norman Kellogg.
3. Monroe.....	1833	...	11	...	...	17	139	102	1,069	28	70	20 00	.....	Erastus N. Nichols.
4. Marshall.....	1838	...	17	1	...	18	65	96	1,163	23	48	10 00	.....	Samuel H. Hall.
5. Washtenaw.....	1838	...	14	...	...	16	34	53	1,189	8	59	15 06	.....	William S. Curtis.
6. Kalamazoo.....	1838	...	9	...	...	11	10	14	503	4	12	7 75	.....	Milton Bradley.
7. Ionia*.....	1845	...	5	...	...	4	.....	.....	91	.....	.....	.....	.....	Le Moyne S. Smith.
X. Synod of Ohio.....	1814	4	46	4	1	69	428	340	4,133	96	370	108 05	$6 75	Addison Kingsbury.
1. Athens.....	1822	...	14	3	...	19	77	27	622	16	57	.....	.....	Lucian C. Ford.
2. Pataskala.....	1809	...	12	1	...	21	136	130	1,674	25	192	54 50	.....	Alexander Duncan.
3. Franklin.....	1835	...	12	...	1	18	194	174	1,312	50	110	45 55	6 75	Henry L. Hitchcock.
4. Scioto.....	1845	...	8	...	...	11	21	9	525	5	11	8 00	.....	Joseph Chester.
XI. Synod of Cincinnati.....	1829	3	34	5	6	39	434	372	2,670	143	215	44 07	6 75	Thornton A. Mills.
1. Cincinnati.....	1828	...	17	5	6	15	171	214	1,335	28	93	10 00	5 00	David D. Gregory.
2. Dayton.....	1838	...	7	...	...	15	98	110	764	27	95	34 07	1 75	Daniel Rice.
3. Hamilton.....	1846	...	10	...	..	9	165	48	571	88	27	.....	.....	Daniel Tenney.
XII. Synod of Indiana.....	1826	7	69	2	1	96	746	364	4,389	181	364	71 40	13 75	Joseph G. Wilson.
1. Salem.....	1823	...	7	...	...	15	203	58	668	56	88	.....	5 00	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison.....	1825	...	12	1	...	15	224	84	806	40	95	10 00	5 00	Harvey Curtis.
3. Crawfordsville.....	1825	...	20	1	1	21	234	114	918	63	122	.....	.....	James H. Johnston.
4. Indianapolis.....	1830	...	11	...	...	19	85	108	779	22	59	61 40	3 75	James McCoy.
5. Logansport*.....	1835	...	8	...	...	11	.....	.....	741	.....	.....	.....	.....	Joseph G. Wilson.
6. Fort Wayne*.....	1845	...	8	...	...	13	.....	.....	340	.....	.....	.....	.....	Charles Beecher.
7. Evansville*.....	1846	...	3	...	...	2	.....	.....	137	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nathan L. Lord.

XIII. Synod of Illinois.....	1831	5	63	...	1	70	446	403	3,414	111	318	50 80	2 75	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois.....	1828	...	18	...	...	15	.....	.....	884	.....	.....	10 00	.....	Livingston M. Glover.
2. Schuyler.....	1833	...	11	...	...	14	35	52	793	10	27	.....	.....	Henry C. Abernethy.
3. Palestine.....	1833	...	5	...	...	4	9	13	173	2	51	10 00	.....	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton.....	1836	...	21	...	1	26	344	272	1,316	99	222	20 00	.....	Augustus T. Norton.
5. Des Moines.....	1845	...	8	...	...	11	58	66	248	.....	18	10 80	2 75	Glen Wood.
XIV. Synod of Peoria.....	1843	6	49	1	1	43	285	385	2,356	62	170	39 65	1 50	Robert W. Patterson.
1. Ottawa.....	1834	...	8	1	...	7	.....	.....	79	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nahum Gould.
2. Peoria*.....	1836	...	5	...	...	9	.....	.....	305	.....	.....	.....	.....	Henry G. Pendleton.
3. Knox.....	1838	...	6	...	...	5	140	90	579	18	25	.....	.....	George W. Gale.
4. Galena.....	1842	...	10	...	1	12	43	40	455	12	41	13 15	.....	John C. Downer.
5. Chicago.....	1847	...	13	...	...	6	43	200	721	14	83	18 50	.....	Flavel Bascom.
6. Belvidere.....	1847	...	7	...	...	4	59	55	217	18	21	8 00	1 50	Royal N. Wright.
XV. Synod of Missouri....	1832	4	38	1	...	51	242	228	2,068	58	120	44 90	2 00	Fincelius R. Gray.
1. St. Louis.....	1831	...	11	1	...	10	190	195	836	40	96	44 90	2 00	Alfred H. Dashiell.
2. Northern Missouri.....	1845	...	8	...	...	15	.....	.....	*666	.....	.....	.....	.....	John Leighton.
3. Lexington.....	1845	...	11	...	...	10	21	21	244	10	14	.....	.....	Edmund Wright.
4. Osage.....	1845	...	8	...	...	16	31	12	322	8	10	.....	.....	Isaac B. Ricketts.
XVI. Synod of Virginia....	1788	3	42	7	8	45	445	162	3,666	90	427	130 00	27 75	John C. Smith.
1. Winchester.....	1794	...	11	2	2	16	120	13	912	33	78	67 00	2 75	Patterson Fletcher.
2. D. of Columbia.....	1831	...	14	3	1	12	202	94	1,449	23	254	10 00	10 00	Thomas J. Shepherd.
3. Hanover.....	1838	...	17	2	5	17	123	55	1,305	34	95	53 00	15 00	Henry Smith.
XVII. Synod of Tennessee...	1817	5	39	3	...	78	178	91	4,778	37	294	.....	3 50	Fielding Pope.
1. Union.....	1797	...	16	2	...	30	49	47	1,946	17	151	.....	.....	Fielding Pope.
2. Holston.....	1826	...	8	1	...	12	10	6	1,326	4	44	.....	2 00	Daniel Rogan.
3. Kingston.....	1838	...	5	...	...	17	76	32	799	16	27	.....	1 50	William B. Brown.
4. New River.....	1838	...	7	...	...	11	43	6	575	.....	72	.....	.....	George Painter.
5. Chattahoochee*.....	1845	...	3	...	...	8	.....	.....	132	.....	.....	.....	.....	Joseph McKee.
XVIII. Synod of Kentucky...	1802	3	14	...	...	22	218	42	1,023	117	109	.....	5 00	Archibald C. Dickerson.
1. Harmony.....	1842	...	5	...	...	9	121	26	417	80	40	.....	5 00	Eliphaz P. Pratt.

SYNODICAL ARRANGEMENT.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Ad. Bap.	Inf. Bap.	Comm. Fund.	Conting. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
2. Providence	1842	...	5	...	...	5	63	9	423	28	57	.....	.....	Thomas H. Cleland.
3. Green River	1842	...	4	...	...	8	34	7	183	9	12	.....	.....	Archibald C. Dickerson.
XIX. Synod of W. Tennessee.	1826	3	27	3	3	40	197	50	2,055	87	85	$58 00	$5 00	William Eagleton.
1. West Tennessee	1810	...	13	1	3	15	106	50	787	52	40	.....	4 00	Edward McMillan.
2. Shiloh*	1816	...	7	2	...	16	.....	.....	863	.....	.....	.....	.....	Amzi Bradshaw.
3. North Alabama	1824	...	7	2	...	9	91	.....	405	35	45	58 00	1 00	Archibald M. Pickens.
XX. Synod of Mississippi	1846	3	16	1	3	22	153	52	849	68	97	76 20	1 25	Alexander Newton, D. D.
1. Clinton	1832	...	5	...	3	6	65	7	225	28	19	.....	.....	George Moore.
2. South Lexington	1845	...	7	1	...	8	33	32	356	17	59	76 20	1 25	Addison M. Morrison.
3. Newton	1845	...	4	...	...	8	55	13	268	23	19	.....	.....	Duncan A. Campbell.

SCHEDULE OF SYNODS.

NAMES OF SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Ad. Bap.	Inf. Cap.	Comm. Fund.	Conting. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
1. Albany	1803	5	94	2	...	87	263	153	10,658	87	161	$46 00	$18 62	A. Bordman Lambert.
2. Utica	1829	5	86	6	...	97	384	574	9,100	105	304	53 25	19 08	George S. Boardman.
3. Geneva	1812	10	199	35	11	198	1,110	1,198	20,845	348	720	184 00	6 30	Vacant.
4. Genesee	1821	6	130	...	...	133	567	892	15,516	198	475	39 48	2 00	Timothy Stillman.
5. N. York and N. Jersey	1788	10	182	34	17	125	1,890	2,342	22,249	508	1,653	196 70	107 10	William B. Lewis.
6. Pennsylvania	1838	4	69	7	3	60	1,147	665	10,917	277	1,070	138 08	84 50	John L. Grant.
7. W. Pennsylvania	1843	3	23	...	1	35	272	194	2,574	60	264	46 24	5 60	George A. Lyon.
8. Western Reserve	1825	8	140	16	1	130	223	434	8,713	42	268	38 98	7 25	William Hanford.
9. Michigan	1834	7	93	3	1	116	562	568	7,074	137	380	108 81	.....	George Duffield, D. D.
10. Ohio	1814	4	46	4	1	69	428	340	4,133	96	370	108 05	6 75	Addison Kingsbury.
11. Cincinnati	1829	3	34	5	6	39	434	372	2,670	143	215	44 07	6 75	Thornton A. Mills.
12. Indiana	1826	7	69	2	1	96	746	364	4,389	181	364	71 40	13 75	Joseph G. Wilson.
13. Illinois	1831	5	63	...	1	70	446	403	3,414	111	318	50 80	2 75	George C. Wood.
14. Peoria	1843	6	49	1	1	43	285	385	2,356	62	170	39 65	1 50	Robert W. Patterson.
15. Missouri	1832	4	38	1	...	51	242	228	2,068	58	120	44 90	2 00	Fincelius R. Gray.
16. Virginia	1788	3	42	7	8	45	445	162	3,666	90	427	130 00	27 75	John C. Smith.
17. Tennessee	1817	5	39	3	...	78	178	91	4,778	37	294	.....	3 50	Fielding Pope.
18. Kentucky	1802	3	14	...	...	22	218	42	1,023	117	109	.....	5 00	Archibald C. Dickerson.
19. W. Tennessee	1826	3	27	3	3	40	197	50	2,055	87	85	58 00	5 00	William Eagleton.
20. Mississippi	1846	3	16	1	3	22	153	52	849	68	97	76 20	1 25	Alexander Newton, D. D.
		104	1,453	130	58	1,555	10,190	9,509	139,047	2,812	7,864	$1,474 61	$325 85	

MINUTES, 1850.

Detroit, Michigan, May 16th, 1850.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian church in the city of Detroit, on Thursday, May 16th, 1850, at 7½ o'clock P. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Philip C. Hay, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from 2 Cor. x. 4—"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds."

After sermon the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions presented their report, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled as Commissioners to this General Assembly, viz.:—

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	David Dobie.	
2. *Troy*,	Jonathan H. Noble,	Dexter Hitchcock.
3. *Albany*,	Robert P. Stanton,	John R. Bullock.
4. *Columbia*,	Josiah Leonard,	William Doty (2).*
5. *Delaware*,	Samuel J. White,	Philip Bassett.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	Roswell Pettibone (2),	Harvey D. Smith.
2. *Watertown*,	George P. Tyler,	Reuben E. Bacon.
3. *Oswego.*		
4. *Otsego*,	Timothy B. Jervis,	William A. Walker.
5. *Utica*,	Elliot H. Payson,	Charles McLean.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Onondaga*,	Alfred C. Lathrop,	Selah Munson.
2. *Cayuga*,	Henry A. Nelson,	Abner Hollister.
3. *Geneva*,	Maltby Gelston,	Jesse Smith.
4. *Cortland*,	Ezra B. Fancher,	Loammi Kinney.
5. *Chenango*,	Amos C. Tuttle,	E. M. Somers.
6. *Tioga*,	Edwin Benedict (2),	William Platt (2).
7. *Bath*,	Benjamin C. Smith.	
8. *Chemung*,	Morrison Huggins,	Solomon L. Gillett.
9. *Ithaca*,	Stephen Voorhees (2),	E. P. Healy, M. D. (2).
10. *Pennsylvania*,	Sidney Mills.	[302]

*The figures show on what day of the sessions the Commissioner presented his credentials and took his seat.

IV. SYNOD OF GENESSEE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Genesee*,	Byron Sunderland,	Eli Woods.
2. *Ontario.*		
3. *Rochester.*		
4. *Niagara*,	William C. Wisner,	George W. Jermain.
5. *Buffalo*,	Grosvenor W. Heacock,	Abner Bryant.
6. *Angelica*,	Joel Wakeman.	

V. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	James W. Wood,	George W. Seward.
2. *North River*,	William N. Sayre,	James O. Adams (2).
3. *Long Island*,	George F. Wiswell (3),	Franklin Tuthill, M. D. (3).
4. *N. York, Third*,	Joseph C. Stiles, D. D.,	Charles Starr.
5. *N. York, Fourth*,	Erskine Mason, D. D.,	Jeremiah Terbell.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Samuel T. Spear,	John A. Davenport.
7. *Newark*,	Clifford S. Arms,	J. H. Clark, M. D.
8. *Rockaway*,	Joseph F. Tuttle,	John Titsworth, M. D.
9. *Montrose*,	Erasmus D. Willis.	
10. *San Francisco.*		

VI. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	J. Edson Rockwell.	
2. *Phila. Third*,	Samuel M. Gould,	P. Frazer Smith (3).
3. *Phila. Fourth*,	David Malin.	
4. *Harrisburgh*,	William Sterling.	

VII. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	James F. Read (2),	George Kellogg (2).
2. *Meadville*,	Lawrence Streit.	
3. *Pittsburgh*,	David H. Riddle, D. D.	

VIII. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	J. Mills Gillett.	
2. *Portage*,	Seth G. Clark (4).	
3. *Huron*,	Henry N. Bissell,	Jairus Kennan.
4. *Trumbull*,	William C. Clark.	
5. *Cleveland*,	Sherman B. Canfield.	
6. *Medina.*		
7. *Elyria*,	Ansel R. Clarke.	
8. *Maumee*,	Anson Smyth,	Horatio Conant.

IX. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	George Duffield, D. D.,	Eurotas P. Hastings.
2. *St. Joseph*,	William Fuller,	Amos Davis.
3. *Monroe*,	John Monteith,	Charles Noble (3).
4. *Marshall*,	William S. Taylor,	Charles Farnsworth, M. D.
5. *Washtenaw*,	J. Holmes Agnew,	Mather Marvin.
6. *Kalamazoo*,	Hollis Russell,	Luther H. Trask.
7. *Ionia.*		

X. SYNOD OF OHIO.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Athens*,	Windsor A. Smith,	John Rochester.
2. *Pataskala*,	Addison Kingsbury,	John Follett.
3. *Franklin*,	Charles W. Torrey,	Wm. H. Skinner.
4. *Scioto*,	Isaiah N. Ford,	David N. Murray (3).

XI. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	David Gould,	George T. Layfield.
2. *Dayton*,	George G. Poage,	David Ghormley.
3. *Hamilton*,	Horace Bushnell,	Giles K. Reynolds.

XII. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	John A. Tiffany.	
2. *Madison*,	Harvey Curtis.	
3. *Crawfordsville*,	James Thompson,	William Hoffman.
4. *Indianapolis*,	William H. Rogers,	Alexander Graydon.
5. *Logansport*,	Joseph G. Wilson,	Wm. H. Shaw.
6. *Fort Wayne*,	Thomas Anderson,	A. D. Seward.

XIII. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	Livingston M. Glover,	D. B. Ayers (3).
2. *Schuyler*.		
3. *Wabash*,	Joseph Wilson.	
4. *Alton*,	John Gibson (2).	
5. *Des Moines*,	S. Storrs Howe.	

XIV. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa*,	Charles A. Williams.	
2. *Peoria*,	C. Rufus Clarke.	
3. *Knox*,	Charles R. Fisk.	
4. *Galena*,	John C. Downer,	Jeremiah Wood.
5. *Chicago*,	Jonathan G. Porter,	J. Ambrose Wight.
6. *Belvidere*,	Ichabod A. Hart,	Joel Walker.

XV. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	James B. Townsend.	
2. *Northern Missouri*,	John Leighton.	
3. *Lexington*,	Fincelius R. Gray.	
4. *Osage*,	Joseph V. Barks.	

XVI. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester*,	Andrew H. H. Boyd.	
2. *Dist. of Columbia*,	Thomas J. Shepherd,	George M. Phillips (2).
3. *Hanover*,	Charles H. Read.	

XVII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union*,	John S. Craig,	Andrew Blackburn.
2. *Holston*,	Francis A. McCorkle.	
3. *Kingston*.		
4. *New River*.		
5. *Chattahoochee*.		

XVIII. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Harmony,*	Benjamin Mills.	
2. *Providence,*	Thomas Cleland, D. D.	
3. *Green River.*		

XIX. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

1. *West Tennessee,*	Milton H. Dysart.	
2. *Shiloh.*		
3. *Richland,*	John H. Zivley.	

XX. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

1. *Clinton.*
2. *S. Lexington.*
3. *Newton.*

DELEGATES FROM CORRESPONDING BODIES.

General Association of Connecticut,	Rev. Charles P. Bush.
" " *Massachusetts.*	
" " *New Hampshire,*	Rev. E. M. Kellogg.
" *Conference of Maine,*	Rev. David Shepley.
" *Convention of Vermont.*	
" *Evan. Consociation of Rhode Island.*	
Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin,	Rev. Dexter Clary. Rev. A. Montgomery.
General Synod of the Lutheran Church in the United States.	
General Synod of the German Reformed Church.	
General Association of New York,	Rev. Silas C. Brown.
" *Assembly of the Cumb. Pres. Ch.*	

After completing the Roll, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 17th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called, and the following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and took their seats.

Rev. Roswell Pettibone, of the Presbytery of	St. Lawrence.
Elder William Doty " "	Columbia.
Rev. George M. Phillips, " "	D. of Columbia.
Rev. Edwin Benedict, and Elder William Platt, from the Presbytery of	Tioga.
Rev. Stephen Voorhees, and Elder E. P. Healy, M. D., from the Presbytery of	Ithaca. [305]
Rev. James F. Read, and Elder George Kellogg, from the Presbytery of	Erie.
Rev. Dexter Clary, and Rev. A. Montgomery, from the Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of	Wisconsin.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Nominations were made for Moderator, after which the Roll was called, and the Rev. David H. Riddle, D. D., of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, was elected, and inducted into office in the usual form.

The Rev. Charles H. Read, of Virginia, was elected Temporary Clerk.

The "General Rules for Judicatories," contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, with the exception of Rules 36, 37, 38, were adopted as the Rules of this General Assembly.

Resolved, That the Assembly will meet every morning at 8½ o'clock, adjourn at 12½ o'clock; meet again at 3 o'clock, and adjourn at 5½ o'clock: and that the Assembly will occupy one half hour every morning in devotional exercises, before proceeding to business.

A copy of the printed Minutes of the last Assembly, agreeably to a standing rule, was given to each of the members, on a call of the Roll.

Ordered, that the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed for the use of members, under the direction of the Clerks.

The Presbyteries were called, and their Narratives of the State of Religion, Statistical Reports, and answers to the Overtures sent down by the last Assembly, were put into the hands of the Stated Clerk.

The reception of Synodical Records was made the order of the day, for 3 o'clock this P. M.

The reception of memorials and Overtures was made the order of the day, this P. M., immediately after the preceding order.

A communication was received from the Rev. D. H. Allen, D. D., informing the Assembly, that Rev. A. Bullard, D. D., who had been appointed by the last Assembly to preach a sermon on Home Missions during the present sessions, had declined the service, and requested him, as the alternate, to perform it; but at so late a day, as to preclude his undertaking the service.

Whereupon, it was *Resolved*, that the provision for a sermon on Home Missions; the nomination of a preacher on that subject for next year; and the whole subject of Home Missions, be referred to a *Committee*, consisting of Rev. H. Curtis, Rev. J. B. Townsend, Rev. Addison Kingsbury, Rev. S. S. Howe, and Elder Jeremiah Wood.

The accounts of the Treasurer, with vouchers, and the accounts of the Stated Clerk, with vouchers, were presented and committed to Messrs. G. Kellogg, C. Farnsworth, and A. Bryant, as an Auditing Committee.

Ordered, that the contributions to the Commissioners' Fund be paid into the hands of the Committee on Mileage; and that the contributions to the Contingent Fund be paid into the hands of the Stated Clerk.

Resolved, That the traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks be paid out of the Contingent Fund, at the same rate as received by the Commissioners from the Commissioners' Fund.

Resolved, That the election of Trustees of the General Assembly, and of [306] the Directors of the Theological Seminaries, be postponed until the next year.

The reception of the reports of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies was made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

The nomination of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies was made the order of the day for Monday, at 9 o'clock, A. M.; and the election of Delegates was made the order of the day for Tuesday, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Resolved, That it be recommended to all our churches to observe the first Monday in January next as a day of fasting and special prayer for the Conversion of the World.

The consideration of the subject of a Theological Seminary at the Northwest was made the order of the day for Tuesday, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

A letter was received from the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., chairman of the Committee appointed by the last Assembly, to correspond with a Committee of the other General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, if such should be appointed, stating that "as no corresponding Committee was appointed by our brethren of the Assembly which met in Pittsburgh last year, no opportunity has been had to carry out the fraternal and Christian spirit of our Assembly."

The Committee were thereupon discharged.

The case of the Rev. Mr. Bridgman, referred to in the Minutes of the last Assembly, p. 181, was referred to the Committee to be appointed on the Records of the Synod of Genesee.

The Stated Clerk, to whom was referred the subject of the claim of Wm. M. Meredith, Esq., for legal services, made a report, which was accepted, and the Committee discharged.

The Moderator announced the following *Standing Committees:*

On Bills and Overtures,—Ministers, Erskine Mason, D. D., S. T. Spear, A. H. H. Boyd, Horace Bushnell. *Elders*, John Titsworth, M. D., A. Blackburn, George T. Layfield.

Polity of the Church,—Ministers, George Duffield, D. D., J. H. Agnew, W. Sterling, Thomas Cleland, D. D., C. S. Arms. *Elders*, George M. Phillips, Jer. Terbell, John H. Clark, M. D.

Devotional Exercises,—Ministers, David Malin, J. C. Stiles, D. D., J. F. Read. *Elders*, Eli Woods, Horatio Conant.

The Narrative,—Ministers, Charles H. Read, William Fuller, Thos. J. Shepherd, Elliot H. Payson, D. Clary, Charles P. Bush, S. T. Spear.

Leave of Absence,—Rev. John. Leighton, Lawrence Streit, J. Edson Rockwell. *Elders*, Mather Marvin, Joel Walker.

Mileage,—Elders, Charles Starr, E. P. Hastings, George Kellogg.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 17, 3 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [307]

The Rev. John Gibson, of the Presbytery of Alton, and Elder James O. Adams, of the Presbytery of North River, presented their Commissions, and their names were placed on the Roll of the Assembly.

Synodical Records were called for, presented, and referred to the following Committees:—

Synod of Albany,—Ministers, F. R. Gray, J. A. Tiffany, Francis A. McCorkle. *Elders*, Amos Davis, Jairus Kennan.

Utica,—Ministers, S. M. Gould, C. A. Williams, S. Storrs Howe. *Elders*, Alexander Graydon, J. A. Wight.

Geneva,—Ministers, William Fuller, W. H. Rogers, Joseph Barks. *Elders*, William H. Skinner, D. Ghormley.

Genesee,—Ministers, H. A. Nelson, L. M. Glover, Ichabod A. Hart. *Elders*, Abner Hollister, L. Kinney.

New York and New Jersey,—Ministers, A. C. Lathrop, H. N. Bissell, John Monteith. *Elders*, L. H. Trask, G. W. Jermain.

Pennsylvania,—Ministers, J. H. Noble, R. Pettibone, William S. Taylor. *Elders*, Dexter Hitchcock, H. D. Smith.

West Pennsylvania,—Ministers, William C. Clark, E. D. Willis, Joel Wakeman. *Elders*, E. P. Healy, M. D., Eli Woods.

Western Reserve,—Ministers, William C. Wisner, M. H. Dysart, James Thompson. *Elders*, G. W. Seward, Joel Walker.

Michigan,—Ministers, Addison Kingsbury, G. G. Poage, Thomas Anderson. *Elders*, A. D. Seward, William Hoffman.

Ohio,—Ministers, Joseph G. Wilson, C. Rufus Clark, Benjamin Mills. *Elders*, William H. Shaw, Giles K. Reynolds.

Cincinnati,—Ministers, Charles M. Torrey, C. A. Williams, John H. Zivley. *Elders*, James O. Adams, J. H. Clark, M. D.

Indiana,—Ministers, Joseph F. Tuttle, E. D. Willis, Hollis Russell. *Elders*, John A. Davenport, C. Noble.

Illinois,—Ministers, J. Edson Rockwell, Geo. P. Tyler, Ezra B. Fancher. *Elders*, Solomon L. Gillett, W. A. Walker.

Peoria,—Ministers, Thomas J. Shepherd, Joseph Wilson, Edwin Benedict. *Elders*, Selah Munson, Jesse Smith.

Missouri,—Ministers, E. H. Payson, Samuel J. White, C. R. Fisk. *Elders*, George M. Phillips, David N. Murray.

Virginia,—Ministers, Jonathan G. Porter, Isaiah N. Ford, Josiah Leonard. *Elders*, Phillip Bassett, Charles McLean.

Tennessee,—Ministers, William Sterling, G. W. Heacock, John S. Craig. *Elders*, John Titsworth, M. D., R. E. Bacon.

Kentucky,—Ministers, A. R. Clarke, William N. Sayre, M. Huggins. *Elders*, William Doty, John R. Bullock.

West Tennessee,—Ministers, John Leighton, William H. Rogers, Windsor A. Smith. *Elders*, John Rochester, John Follett.

Mississippi,—Ministers, J. Holmes Agnew, J. M. Gillett, Byron Sunderland. *Elders*, Dexter Hitchcock, William Platt.

Memorials and Overtures from several Synods, Presbyteries, churches, and communicants were put into the hands of the Stated Clerk, and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures. [308]

The Rev. E. F. Hatfield, from the Committee appointed to prepare a new Digest of the Acts of the General Assembly, reported progress; and the Committee was continued.

The subject of the legacy of William Brown, Esq., of Greenville, Tennessee, was taken up for consideration; whereupon the whole subject was referred to the Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., Rev. E. F. Hatfield, and J. L. Mason, Esq., to consider and report to the next Assembly.

The subject of a legacy of the late Isaac Keith, D. D., of Charleston, S. C., was referred to the same Committee.

The appointment of a time for the hearing of the agents of benevolent societies was referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

The Assembly proceeded to consider the place for the meeting of the next General Assembly. New York, Utica, St. Louis, Philadelphia, and Richmond were put in nomination, and the selection was made the second order of the day for Tuesday next, in the P. M.

The Stated Clerk having been called home by a telegraphic despatch, informing him of the alarming illness of one of his children, Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., was appointed Stated Clerk, *pro tem.*

The answers of Presbyteries to the Overtures sent down by the last Assembly were referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 18th, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called. After which, half an hour was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were placed on the Roll of the Assembly, viz.:

Rev. George F. Wiswell, and Franklin Tuthill, M. D., Elder,	from the	Presbytery	of Long Island,
David N. Murray, Elder,	"	"	Scioto,
D. B. Ayers, Elder,	"	"	Illinois,
Charles Noble, Elder,	"	"	Monroe,
Rev. Sherman B. Canfield,	"	"	Cleveland.

The Delegates to foreign bodies were called upon for their several reports.

A letter from the trustees of a congregation in Michigan City, requesting a supply for their church, was read, and referred to the Committee on Home Missions.

A communication was received from the Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., of Philadelphia, presenting copies of a discourse on "Presbyterianism," for the use of the Assembly. *Ordered*, that the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to Dr. Parker for his acceptable donation.

Resolved, That the Treasurer's report and the report of the Auditing Committee, be published in the Appendix to the Minutes. [309]

The Delegates from Corresponding Bodies were called upon for communications.

Reports on the state of religion within their bounds were received from the Rev. Charles P. Bush, of Connecticut; the Rev. David Shepley, of Maine; the Rev. D. Clary and A. Montgomery, of Wisconsin, and Rev. Silas C. Brown, of the Congregational Association of New York.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported

Overture, No. 2, from the Synod of New York and New Jersey, on "Correspondence with the Methodist Episcopal Church," which was referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Also, Overture, No. 3, on "Doctrinal Tracts," which was put upon the docket.

The same Overture was then taken up for consideration. A motion was made to commit the subject to a select Committee; which was followed by a motion for the indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

Pending the discussion of this motion, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 18th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the consideration of the Overture on "Doctrinal Tracts," was resumed; the motion before the house being for the indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

After a long discussion, the motion for postponement was lost.

The motion recurred on the reference of the subject to a select Committee; and it was finally referred to a *Committee* consisting of Rev. J. C. Stiles, D. D., James B. Townsend, Rev. J. Holmes Agnew, and Rev. Frederick A. Ross, with the Elders, Abner Bryant and George Kellogg, to report to the next Assembly.

Rev. H. Curtis, from the Committee on Home Missions, made a report, recommending that an interlocutory meeting, on the subject of Home Missions, be held on Monday morning next, as the second order of the day; and the report was adopted.

P. Frazer Smith, Elder, from the Presbytery of Philadelphia Third, presented his credentials, and his name was placed on the Roll of the Assembly.

The Rev. E. M. Kellogg, appeared as Delegate from the General Association of New Hampshire, and was received as a Corresponding Member of the Assembly.

Resolved, that it be the third order of the day for Monday morning next, to hear from Mr. Kellogg any communication he may wish to make to the Assembly.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church made a report on Overture No. 2,—which was put upon the docket.

The Records of the Synod of Western Reserve were, on the recommendation of the Committee appointed to examine them, approved so far as written. [310]

Ordered, that the reception of reports on Synodical Records be the order of the day for Wednesday morning next.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

Resolved, 1. That a prayer meeting be held every morning, at 6 o'clock, in the lecture room of this church; and that the following persons be appointed to conduct the exercises:

On the Sabbath, Rev. S. T. Spear; on Monday, Rev. W. C. Wisner; on Tuesday, Rev. Wm. Sterling; on Wednesday, Rev. Harvey Curtis; on Thursday, Rev. J. B. Townsend; on Friday, Rev. H. Bushnell.

2. That a sermon on Home Missions be preached before the Assembly, in this place, on Monday evening next, by the Moderator, Rev. D. H. Riddle, D. D.

Adjourned until Monday, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 20th, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

After which, the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Nominations were made of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies; and the election made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly then, agreeably to previous order, went into an interlocutory meeting on the subject of Home Missions.

Resolved, that speakers be limited to a single speech of ten minutes.

Resolved, also, that any agent of the American Home Missionary Society who may be present, be permitted to take part in the discussion.

The interlocutory was continued until 12¼ o'clock, when it was arrested, for the present, with a view to hear a report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 4: eighteen memorials on the subject of Slavery; and recommended that, after the reading of the memorial from the Presbytery of Fort Wayne, they be referred to a special Committee.

A motion was made to adopt the report.

Before the question was taken, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 20th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A communication was received, and read, from the Presbytery of Ro- [311] chester, in reference to a re-union of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church.

A letter was also read from the Rev. Absalom Peters, D. D., the Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, apologizing for his non-attendance at this meeting, and containing a general report on the state of religion within the bounds of that Association.

It was moved to refer the communication from the Presbytery of Rochester to a select Committee: this was followed by a motion for the indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

The motion for indefinite postponement was lost. And, the question recurring on the reference to a select Committee, it was moved that the further consideration of the subject be postponed for the present, with a view to resume the unfinished business of the morning.

The motion for postponement was carried, and the unfinished business was resumed, viz. the reference of the memorials on Slavery to a select Committee.

After much discussion, it was *Resolved*, that the said memorials be referred to a *Committee of seven*, after the Assembly shall have heard the memorial from the Presbytery of Fort Wayne, and such other memorials from Presbyteries, or Synods, as any Delegate from those Presbyteries or Synods may call for.

Memorials were read from the Presbyteries of Fort Wayne, Cleveland, Athens, and Trumbull.

At this stage, the business before the house was suspended, for the purpose of hearing the Rev. E. M. Kellogg, the Delegate from the General Association of New Hampshire.

The communication from the Rev. Mr. Kellogg, and also that from Rev. A. Peters, D. D., were referred to the Committee on the Narrative.

The unfinished business, viz. the hearing of the memorials on Slavery, was resumed. After all that were called for had been read, the memorials on Slavery were referred to a Committee, consisting of Rev. George Duffield, D. D., Rev. William C. Wisner, Rev. David Malin, Rev. Sherman B. Canfield, and Rev. Thomas Cleland, D. D., with the Elders, J. H. Clark, M. D., and Andrew Blackburn.

After which, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M. Concluded with prayer.

On Monday evening, May 20th, the annual sermon on Home Missions was preached, according to previous arrangement, by the Rev. D. H. Riddle, D. D., from Ps. lxvii., 1, 2. "God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us: That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations."

Tuesday, May 21st, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [312]

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz., the election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

Rev. William Fuller, and Elder E. P. Hastings were appointed a Committee to collect and count the votes, who subsequently reported that the following persons had been duly elected: To the

General Association of Connecticut,—Rev. Joseph C. Stiles, D. D., Rev. Charles Beecher, and Rev. William Wisner, D. D.

General Association of Massachusetts,—Joseph C. Stiles, D. D., and Rev. Charles Beecher.

Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island,—Rev. William Wisner, D. D. Alternate, Rev. John Leighton.

General Association of New Hampshire,—Rev. Jacob Little. Alternate, Rev. David Dobie.

General Convention of Vermont,—Rev. David Dobie. Alternate, Rev. Jacob Little.

General Conference of Maine,—Rev. Samuel T. Spear. Alternate, Rev. James G. Hamner, D. D.

Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin,—Rev. O. P. Hoyt, and Rev. Lewis H. Loss. Alternates, Rev. S. H. Hall, and Joseph G. Wilson.

General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.—Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D. Alternate, Rev. J. Holmes Agnew.

General Synod of the German Reformed Church,—Rev. David H. Riddle, D. D. Alternate, Rev. Albert Barnes.

General Association of New York.—Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D. Alternate, Rev. S. M. Hopkins.

General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.—Rev. C. P. Wing. Alternate, Rev. John P. Zivley.

The Assembly resumed the discussion of the subject of Home Missions; when it was *Resolved*, that the discussion be arrested.

The consideration of the subject of correspondence between the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, as proposed by the Presbytery of Rochester, was then resumed;—the question before the house being, the reference of the whole subject to a select Committee.

Rev. I. N. Ford moved the postponement of the question before the house, to take up the following substitute: *Resolved*, that this Assembly always stands ready to communicate with the other branch of the Presbyterian Church, by committee or otherwise, with reference to a fraternal correspondence, or a re-union of the two bodies.

F. Tuthill, M. D., moved the indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

The discussion continued until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M. Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 21st, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Pursuant to previous order, the subject of a Theological Seminary at the [313] North-west came up for consideration, when it was *Resolved*, that the Committee on that subject be discharged.

The Assembly proceeded to determine the place of the next meeting. The Roll was called, and it was *Resolved*, that the next General Assembly meet in the city of Utica, N. Y., on the third Thursday of May, 1851, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

Rev. Messrs. W. H. Spencer, E. H. Payson, and S. W. Brace, with the Elders, Spencer Kellogg, and George Tracy, were appointed a *Committee of Arrangements* for the meeting of the next Assembly.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz.: the proposition for correspondence with the Assembly of the other branch of the Presbyterian Church,

was resumed; the question being on the indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

The motion for indefinite postponement was lost.

The question then recurred on the postponement of the motion for reference to a select Committee, to take up Mr. Ford's substitute.

The postponement was carried; and Mr. Ford's substitute came up for consideration.

Rev. J. B. Townsend then moved to postpone Mr. Ford's motion, to take up the following substitute.

"*Resolved*, that a *Committee of three* be appointed on the subject of the letter from the Presbytery of Rochester, with the following instructions: that the Committee simply refer to what has already been done by us; and that we decline taking any further step in the premises."

The postponement was carried, and the substitute adopted. Erskine Mason, D. D., Rev. S. T. Spear, and James B. Townsend were appointed the Committee.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 5, in reference to the establishment of a fund for superannuated ministers, by the Assembly, recommending that the General Assembly, as such, take no action on the subject, but refer it to the Presbyteries and Synods, to act as in their judgment may be deemed proper.

The report was adopted.

Also, Overture No. 6, from the Presbytery of St. Louis, in reference to the competency of witnesses in certain cases. The Committee recommended that the Presbytery be referred to Chap. VI. section 2d and 4th of the Book of Discipline, as containing a rule upon the subject, which is sufficiently explicit.

This report, also, was adopted.

C. Farnsworth, M. D., from the Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Treasurer and of the Stated Clerk, made the following report, which was adopted, viz.:

That they find the several accounts accurately stated and authenticated by the proper vouchers.

That the whole amount received into the treasury the past year, including a balance from the account of the previous year, is $1200.17; the whole amount expended for various purposes, $1193.63; leaving an unexpended balance of $6.54.

That the whole amount received by the Stated Clerk is $436.04; the [314] amount expended for printing and sundry accounts, $310.67; the salary of Stated Clerk, $100; leaving in his hands a balance of $25.37.

After which the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M. Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 22d, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Pursuant to previous order, reports of Committees appointed to examine Synodical Records were received. And, on their recommendation, the Records of the following Synods were approved so far as written, viz.: of Albany, Geneva, Genesee, New York and New Jersey, Ohio, Cincinnati, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and Michigan.

The Records of the Synod of Pennsylvania were approved with two exceptions,—

1. There is no evidence from the Records that the last meeting of the Synod was opened with prayer.

2. The Synod, in approving the action of a Presbytery in a judicial case, assigned an entirely unsatisfactory reason (p. 259).

The Records of the Synod of West Pennsylvania were approved with the exception, that there is no record of the election of a Moderator.

The Records of the Synod of Peoria were approved, with the following exceptions: 1. The Minutes of the last meeting of the Synod are not paged. 2. In the Roll of the Synod, record is made that no members of the Presbytery of Belvidere were present; but no record of the names of absentees. 3. Record is made that H. G. Pendleton and D. S. Dickinson appeared in Synod, but no record of the Presbytery from which they came, nor whether they were ministers or elders. 4. The free conversation on the state of religion was made the order of the day for 3 o'clock, but a subsequent minute records that "at 2 o'clock this conversation was had, and that at 3 o'clock, pursuant to appointment, C. A. Williams preached from Gen. xii. 1–8."

The Records of the Synod of Tennessee were approved, with the exception, that they have not been submitted to the inspection of the Assembly for a period of fourteen years; and an injunction that, for the future, the Synod of Tennessee send up their book regularly for review, according to Book of Discipline, Chap. XI. sect. 6th.

The Records of the Synods of Virginia, Kentucky, West Tennessee and Mississippi not being present, the Committees appointed to examine them were discharged.

Ordered, that the Synods who have neglected to forward their Records, be enjoined to send them up regularly hereafter.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Genesee reported, that the Synod had acted on the case of the Rev. Mr. Bridgman, as directed by the last Assembly. [315]

The Records of the Synod of Albany were re-committed to the same Committee.

The following resolutions were then adopted on the subject of Home Missions:

"1. *Resolved*, that, in the last command of Christ to his disciples, we recognize a command obligatory on our branch of the Church, to preach the Gospel and establish religious institutions throughout the entire extent of our national domain, as far, and as fast, as that domain becomes inhabited.

"2. *Resolved*, that our Presbyteries be recommended to take such action within their respective bounds, that, either by themselves, or by the aid of the Home Missionary Society, new churches may be organized wherever circumstances will permit; and the stated preaching of the Gospel be supplied in churches now destitute, as speedily as possible.

"3. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to all our churches, to strive earnestly to render our religious institutions permanent, by the erection of church edifices, and the settlement of pastors whenever this can be done; and in this work the older and wealthier churches ought to co-operate with the younger and feebler.

"4. *Resolved*, That the searching out and bringing forward of young men, of hopeful piety and talent, as candidates for the Gospel Ministry is an integral and essential part of the missionary enterprise; and, as such, demands the constant vigilance and untiring efforts of the ministers and elders of our churches in all parts of the land."

At 12 o'clock the Assembly proceeded to hear the report of the Committee to whom were referred the memorials on the subject of Slavery.

The report of the Committee was presented by Rev. G. Duffield, D. D. The report was accepted, and a motion made to print 300 copies for the use of members.

Before the question was taken, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 22d, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A letter was received from J. W. Brooks, Esq., superintendent of the Michigan Central Railroad Company, tendering to the members of the Assembly free passes on their railroad and the steamers in their connection.

The offer was gratefully received, and the Temporary Clerk was directed to express to the Railroad Company the thanks of the Assembly.

The subject of printing the report of the Committee on Slavery was taken up, and it was ordered that 300 copies be printed for the use of the members.

The Rev. William C. Wisner presented a minority report from the Committee on Slavery, which was accepted and 300 copies of it ordered to be printed.

The Rev. E. M. Kellogg, Delegate from New Hampshire, after a short [316] address, which was responded to by the Moderator, respectfully took his leave.

The Rev. A. Montgomery, Delegate from Wisconsin, after a short address, which was responded to by the Moderator, respectfully took his leave.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made the following report, which was adopted:

"That the Assembly unite in the celebration of the Lord's Supper on Thursday, at 7¾ o'clock, P. M., and that the following be the order of exercises:

1. Reading the Scriptures and Hymn, by the Moderator.
2. Remarks on the Nature of the Ordinance, " Rev. Thos. Cleland, D. D.
3. Distribution of the Bread, " Rev. Maltby Gelston.
4. Distribution of the Cup, " Rev. Dr. Poor, of Ceylon.
5. Concluding Address, " Rev. J. B. Townsend."

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 23d, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave of absence had been given to Messrs. William Doty, T. B. Jervis, L. Kinney, William Platt, G. W. Jermain, H. Conant, and L. H. Trask.

The Committee on Mileage made the following report:—

"There has been paid into the hands of the Committee, from thirty-one Presbyteries, the sum of $508.69, and a distribution has been made on 19,929 miles of travel in coming to the Assembly, at the rate of $2.55¼

for every 100 miles, and in favor of forty members, the whole number who are understood to have made application for a portion of the fund."

The report was adopted; and the Committee on Mileage (in the absence of the Treasurer) were authorized to pay over the sums due to each Commissioner.

A hearing was then given, for a short season, to the agents of benevolent societies. The Assembly was addressed by the Rev. T. A. Mills, in behalf of Lane Seminary; by the Rev. Dr. Babcock, in behalf of the American Sunday-School Union; by the Rev. R. H. Leonard, in behalf of the Seamen's Friend Society; by the Rev. E. R. Fairchild, D. D., in behalf of the American and Foreign Christian Union; by the Rev. C. Clark, in behalf of the American Home Missionary Society; by the Rev. J. Beach, in behalf of the American Evangelical Alliance; and by the Rev. David Malin, in behalf of the A. B. C. F. Missions.

The Rev. Charles H. Read offered the following resolutions, in reference to the American and Foreign Christian Union, which were adopted:

"*Whereas*, the multiplication of benevolent organizations, having substantially the same end, tends to the embarrassment of the churches, and [317] also to the hindrance of the prosperity of other and kindred institutions: and *whereas*, in the providence of God among the papal nations of Europe, and also among the people of that communion in this country, many doors are now open for the diffusion of the principles of religious liberty, and a pure and evangelical Christianity,—Therefore,

"*Resolved*, 1. That this Assembly have learned with much satisfaction that the three societies, viz., The Christian Alliance, the American Protestant, and the Foreign Evangelical, whose objects, in relation to the evangelization of the papal population of this country and of Europe, are substantially identical, have been merged in one society, known as the American and Foreign Christian Union, thereby reducing the expenses, and augmenting the efficiency of this department of Christian benevolence.

"*Resolved*, 2. That this Assembly approve of the objects of the American and Foreign Christian Union, as set forth in its Constitution, viz., to diffuse and promote the principles of religious liberty, and a pure and evangelical Christianity both at home and abroad, wherever a corrupted Christianity exists; and do cordially commend it to the confidence and patronage of the churches under their care, and to the Christian community.

"*Resolved*, 3. That in view of the encouragements arising from past success and prospective usefulness, in making known the pure Gospel to the papal population of this country and of Europe, in the judgment of this Assembly, the American and Foreign Christian Union are called upon by the providence and word of God to put forth increased efforts in the work in which they are engaged."

The Committee on the Polity of the Church made a report in reference to the answers of Presbyteries to the Overtures sent down by the last Assembly, which was adopted, and is as follows:

"It appears from the Roll that there are one hundred and two Presbyteries connected with the Assembly; that eighty-seven Presbyteries have sent up their answers to the first three Overtures, on the subject of the limitation of Appeals, and fifteen have not: and that of these the following thirty Presbyteries have answered in the AFFIRMATIVE:—

"Delaware, Oswego, Cayuga, Geneva, Cortland, Chenango, North River, Erie, Grand River, Portage, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland, Elyria, Maumee, Athens, Pataskala, Franklin, Scioto, Hamilton Peoria, Belvidere, Lexington, Osage, Winchester, District of Columbia, Hanover, Holston, West Tennessee, and South Lexington.

"And the following fifty-seven Presbyteries have answered in the NEGATIVE:—

"Champlain, Troy, Columbia, St. Lawrence, Watertown, Utica, Onondaga, Tioga, Bath, Chemung, Ithaca, Pennsylvania, Genesee, Niagara, Buffalo, Hudson, Long Island, New York Third, New York Fourth, Brooklyn, Newark, Rockaway, Montrose, Wilmington, Philadelphia Third, Philadelphia Fourth, Harrisburgh, Meadville, Pittsburgh, Detroit, St. Joseph, Monroe, Marshall, Washtenaw, Kalamazoo, Cincinnati, Dayton, Salem, Madison, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, Logansport, Fort Wayne, Schuyler, Alton, Des Moines, Ottawa, Galena, Chicago, St. Louis, Northern Missouri, Union, New River, Harmony, Providence, Shiloh, and Richland.

"That to the fourth Overture, on the subject of Complaints, the answers [318] vary only by the addition of the Presbytery of Pataskala to the number of those answering in the negative; thus making the number of Presbyteries replying in the AFFIRMATIVE to this Overture, twenty-nine; and in the NEGATIVE, fifty-eight.

"That to the fifth Overture, on the subject of *pro re nata* Meetings of the Assembly, eighty-six Presbyteries have sent answers, the same as have replied to the other Overtures, with the exception of the Presbytery of Newark; and that of these only three Presbyteries have answered in the AFFIRMATIVE, viz., Champlain, Erie, and Hanover; the remaining eighty-three having answered in the NEGATIVE.

"That to the sixth Overture, on the subject of the Ratio of Representation in the Assembly, answers have been returned by eighty-four Presbyteries, the same as before, with the exception of the Presbyteries of Newark, Grand River and Huron; and that of these the following twenty eight Presbyteries have answered in the AFFIRMATIVE, viz.: Champlain, Delaware, Oswego, Geneva, Cortland, Bath, Hudson, North River, Long Island, Meadville, Portage, Trumbull, Cleveland, Maumee, Kalamazoo, Athens, Franklin, Scioto, Hamilton, Fort Wayne, Peoria, Belvidere, Lexington, Winchester, District of Columbia, Hanover, Holston, and South Lexington.

"And the following fifty-six Presbyteries have answered the same Overture in the NEGATIVE, viz.:—

"Troy, Columbia, St. Lawrence, Watertown, Utica, Onondaga, Cayuga, Chenango, Tioga, Chemung, Ithaca, Pennsylvania, Genesee, Niagara, Buffalo, New York Third, New York Fourth, Brooklyn, Rockaway, Montrose, Wilmington, Philadelphia Third, Philadelphia Fourth, Harrisburgh, Erie, Pittsburgh, Elyria, Detroit, St. Joseph, Monroe, Marshall, Washtenaw, Pataskala, Cincinnati, Dayton, Salem, Madison, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, Logansport, Schuyler, Alton, Des Moines, Ottawa, Galena, Chicago, St. Louis, Northern Missouri, Osage, Union, New River, Harmony, Providence, West Tennessee, Shiloh, and Richland."

The Assembly therefore declares, that a majority of the whole number of the Presbyteries has decided against each and all of the proposed changes in the Constitution. The book, therefore, remains as in 1840; or as it was before the division of the Church.

A letter was received from Mr. Henry Perkins, of Philadelphia, in reference to a new edition of the Standards of the Church, informing the Assembly that he was ready to make the stereotype plates of the Constitution, published by him, by authority of the Assembly of 1846, conform to any alterations the Assembly may direct; and to submit the book, before publication, to the inspection of the Stated Clerk, or any Committee they may appoint.

Whereupon it was *Resolved*, that the Stated and Permanent Clerks be a

Committee to publish a new and correct edition of the Standards of the Church, and that they be directed to employ Mr. Perkins as the printer of the book.

The unfinished business of the last session, viz., the consideration of the report of the Committee on Slavery, was resumed.

A motion was made to postpone the report of the Committee in order to adopt the report of the minority. [319]

The motion was carried, and the report of the minority came up for adoption.

Pending the discussion, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 23d, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the consideration of the report on Slavery, was resumed, the question being on adopting the report of the minority.

The discussion was continued until near the hour of adjournment, when it was arrested, Mr. Clark having the floor.

Rev. Dr. Poor, of Ceylon, was requested to address the Assembly on Friday evening, on the subject of Foreign Missions.

Rev. D. Shepley, the Delegate from the General Conference of Maine, after a short address, which was responded to by the Moderator, took his leave.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

On Thursday evening, at 7¾ o'clock, the Assembly united in the celebration of the Lord's Supper; the order of exercises being the same as previously appointed.

Friday, May 24th, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time having been occupied in devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A memorial from the Presbytery of Pataskala, on the subject of Slavery, was presented by the Committee on Bills and Overtures, and read to the Assembly.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz., the consideration of the report on Slavery, was resumed,—the question being on the adoption of the report of the minority.

Rev. S. T. Spear moved the following as a substitute for the second resolution, which, with leave of the Assembly, was accepted by Mr. Wisner as a part of his report.

"That the holding our fellow-men in the condition of Slavery, except in those cases where it is unavoidable by the laws of the State, the obligations of guardianship, and the demands of humanity, is an offence against God and the Church, which should be regarded and treated in the same manner as other offences."

Rev. S. B. Canfield moved a substitute for the report of the minority, [320] which was discussed until near the hour of adjournment, when the discussion was arrested, Rev. J. H. Agnew having the floor.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported a list of supplies for the pulpits of this city, for the ensuing Sabbath, as follows:—

First Presbyterian Church—
1. Rev. Dr. Poor, Missionary at Ceylon, A. M.
2. Rev. J. C. Stiles, D. D., of New York, P. M.
3. Rev. G. W. Heacock, Buffalo, evening.

Second Presbyterian Church—
1. Rev. Henry A. Nelson, of Auburn, N. Y., A. M.
2. Rev. L. M Glover, of Illinois, P. M.
3. Rev. J. Edson Rockwell, Wilmington, Del., evening.

Congregational Church—
1. Rev. Samuel M. Gould, Norristown, Pa., A. M.
2. Rev. Dr. Poor, Missionary at Ceylon, P. M.
3. Rev. Sherman B. Canfield, of Cleveland, Ohio, evening.

First Methodist Episcopal Church—
Rev. William Sterling, of Williamsport, Pa.

Baptist Church—
Rev. Elliot H. Payson, of New Hartford, N. Y.

Second Methodist Episcopal Church—
1. Rev. J. H. Zivley, of West Tennessee, A. M.
2. Rev. Morrison Huggins, of Havana, N. Y., P. M.

Scotch Presbyterian Church—
1. Rev. A. C. Tuttle, of Chenango, A. M.
2. Rev. James Thompson, Indiana, P. M.

Rev. H. Curtis, from the Committee on Home Missions, made a report nominating a preacher on Home Missions for the next Assembly: and, on their recommendation, the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, was chosen principal, and Rev. John A. Murray, of the Presbytery of Geneva, the alternate.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 24th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported No. 7, on the "Erection of Presbyteries in Foreign Lands, and Church Extension in our own land:" which, on the recommendation of the Committee, was referred to a *Special Committee*, with instructions to report to the next Assembly.

The Committee to consist of Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., Rev. Samuel T. Spear, and Elder Charles Starr.

Also, No. 8, "An inquiry by a Commissioner of the Presbytery of Ottawa, whether, if a majority of a Presbytery withdraw from the General Assembly, the remaining members, if sufficient in point of numbers, are to be regarded as the constitutional Presbytery?" [321]

On the recommendation of the Committee, the question was answered in the affirmative.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the discussion of the subject of Slavery, was resumed,—the question being on Mr. Canfield's motion to postpone the report of the minority, to take up his substitute.

The discussion continued until 5½ o'clock, when the Assembly

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 25th, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The answer of the Presbytery of Niagara, to the Overtures sent down by the last Assembly, was received, and ordered to be recorded with the other answers.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz., the discussion of the subject of Slavery, was resumed,—the question being on the postponement of the report of the minority, to take up Mr. Canfield's substitute.

The motion for postponement was lost. The question recurred on the adoption of the report of the minority.

The discussion continued until 12½ o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 25th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the discussion of the subject of Slavery, was resumed,—the question being on the adoption of the report of the minority.

On motion of Rev. D. Malin, Rev. Dr. Poor had leave to address the Assembly, on Monday, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The discussion continued through the afternoon until 5½ o'clock, when the Assembly

Adjourned until Monday at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 27th, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Rev. Dr. Poor, agreeably to previous order, addressed the Assembly, principally on the subject of Foreign Missions, after which the Moderator, in the name of the Assembly, bade him an affectionate farewell. [322]

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. Charles P. Bush, the Delegate from the General Association of Connecticut, having been prevented from addressing the Assembly orally, took his leave by a written communication.

Rev. E. Mason, D. D., from the Committee to whom was referred the subject of correspondence with the other General Assembly, made a report, which, after being amended, was unanimously adopted, and is as follows:

"The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of the letter from the Presbytery of Rochester, report,

"That this Assembly has always deplored, and continues to deplore, the unhappy division in the Presbyterian Church, as well as the causes which produced it. For this sundering of the body of Christ they do not feel themselves at all responsible, as, in everything they have done, they have stood upon the defensive to protect their dearest rights, secured to them under the Constitution of the Church.

"They have always, moreover, been ready to meet their brethren in any plan consistent with principle, to heal the breach, and restore the Church to its former integrity; and have even taken the first step towards such a result.

"Feeling that a separation between brethren of a common faith, common sympathies, and a common creed, could not be without sin, they did, immediately after the separation in 1838, (see Minutes, p. 654,)* publish to the world their willingness to 'agree to any reasonable measures tending to an amicable adjustment of the difficulties existing in the Presbyterian Church.'

"In 1839, to avert all unpleasant controversy, and prevent all unhappy

* Reprint, p. 23.

litigation, they proposed a plan of amicable settlement, designed only to secure our constitutional privileges as Presbyterians, while it relinquished to our brethren of the other body all the chartered rights, institutions, and funds of the Presbyterian Church. (See Minutes of 1839, p. 21.)*

"The idea of an amicable settlement, and even of re-union, was cherished for some time by this body; and it was not until 1841, three years after the separation, that they relinquished it; and coming reluctantly to the conclusion that union was impracticable, they corrected their Roll, and dropped from it the names of these brethren, in deference to their feelings. (See Minutes of 1840, p. 16.)†

"Again, in 1846, they expressed the desire for union with their brethren; and, pained by the unseemly exhibition of two such bodies at apparent strife with each other, they proposed to their brethren of the other Assembly, a mutual recognition of each other, by communing together at the Table of our Master.

"These propositions and overtures were all made in good faith, and with an earnest desire and hope that they might be met in the spirit which prompted them.

"The result is a matter of history, and is now before the world. We do not pretend to question the motives of our brethren in rejecting them; we yield to them what we claim for ourselves, honesty of purpose, and sincere convictions of duty. We stated only the facts, and do so, to show that we cannot, as a body, at the present time, take any farther action in this matter. [323]

"While we are constrained to come to this conclusion, we should be untrue to ourselves before God and the world, did we not frankly avow our readiness to meet, in a spirit of fraternal kindness and Christian love, any overtures which may be made to us by the other body."

Rev. S. T. Spear was added to the Committee on Leave of Absence.

The unfinished business of Saturday, viz., the discussion on Slavery, was resumed; the question being on adopting the report of the minority.

The discussion continued until 12½ o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 27th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The unfinished business, viz., the discussion of the subject of Slavery, was resumed.

Resolved, That the speakers henceforth be limited to twenty minutes.

The discussion continued until 5½ o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned to meet in the lecture room of this church, at 7½ o'clock. P. M.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave of absence had been given to Messrs. William A. Walker, George Kellogg, W. C. Clarke, and Ansel R. Clarke.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 27th, 7½ o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business, viz., the discussion on the subject of Slavery, was resumed; the question still being on the adoption of the report of the minority.

* Reprint, p. 60. † Reprint, p. 97.

The discussion continued until nearly 10 o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned, to meet in the church to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 28th, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual time occupied in devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The report of the Committee in reference to correspondence with the Methodist Episcopal Conference, which had been put upon the docket, was taken up, and the following resolution was adopted, viz.:

Whereas, the communication of the Oneida Annual Conference of the [324] Methodist Episcopal Church solicits only a correspondence between themselves and the Synod of New York and New Jersey, and not with the Presbyterian Church generally; and *whereas* the Synod has referred the matter to the Assembly, without submitting any specific proposition or plan for such correspondence, Therefore,

"*Resolved*, That the communication be referred back to the Synod to adopt such measures as they may deem proper in pursuance of the request for a correspondence of the local bodies."

In reference to collections for the Commissioners' Fund, the Assembly reaffirmed the following resolution of the Assembly of 1843, contained in the Minutes of 1849, p. 214:—"That every Presbytery be, and hereby is earnestly requested to cause a contribution for the Commissioners' Fund to be taken up in all their churches, in the winter preceding each future General Assembly, and transmit the whole amount of the same to the Assembly, by their own or some neighboring commissioner."

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz., the discussion of the subject of Slavery, was resumed;—the question being still on the adoption of the report of the minority.

Resolved, That all debate on this subject cease at 12 o'clock, M.

Rev. D. Malin moved the postponement of the motion before the house, to take up the following substitute:

"*Whereas*, numerous memorials on the subject of Slavery have been regularly laid before this Assembly, and carefully examined by a Committee to whom they were referred;—which memorials unite in proposing no specific measure, but, in general, asking of this Assembly more decisive and stringent action;

And *whereas*, in answer to memorials of the same character on this subject, several successive General Assemblies have expressed their sentiments, and borne their decided testimony;

Therefore, *Resolved*,

That in the judgment of this Assembly, no evidence is before them, that new exigencies or circumstances have arisen requiring at this time further action by this body."

The following substitute, suggested by Rev. E. Mason, D. D., was adopted by Mr. Malin, as his own:

"*Whereas*, according to the 'Form of Government,' the powers of the General Assembly, except in judicial cases, are only 'ministerial and declarative;' and *whereas*, in former years, especially in the year 1849, the Assembly did fully and decidedly express its opinions respecting the subject of Slavery; and *whereas*, by the Constitution of the Church, sessions and Presbyteries are the courts of primary jurisdiction, competent to judge of offences and their proof;—this Assembly cannot take any farther action in this matter,

except as it may be brought up in a regular manner by way of judicial process, or general review and control from the lower judicatories."

At 12 o'clock, the question was taken, and the postponement was lost:

The question recurred on the adoption of the minority report, which after being amended was adopted, by Yeas and Nays, and is as follows:

"A minority of the Committee, to whom was referred a number of memorials on the subject of Slavery from various Synods, Presbyteries and churches within our bounds, beg leave to report:—

"That after a careful and thorough examination of the whole subject, they [325] have been brought to the conclusion, that, in consideration of the previous action of the Assembly, had at different times for a series of years, and what they believe to be its present sentiments, and the expectation of the churches in its connection, the cause of truth and righteousness, of peace and unity, will be best subserved by the adoption of the following resolutions:—

Resolved, 1. That we exceedingly deplore the working of the whole system of Slavery as it exists in our country, and is interwoven with the political institutions of the slaveholding States, as fraught with many and great evils to the civil, political and moral interests of those regions where it exists.

Resolved, 2. That the holding our fellow-men in the condition of slavery, except in those cases where it is unavoidable, by the laws of the State, the obligations of guardianship, or the demands of humanity, is an offence in the proper import of that term, as used in the Book of Discipline, Chap. I. sec. 3, and should be regarded and treated in the same manner as other offences.

Resolved, 3. That the sessions and Presbyteries are, by the Constitution of our Church, the courts of primary jurisdiction for the trial of offences.

Resolved, 4. That after this declaration of sentiment, the whole subject of Slavery, as it exists in the Church, be referred to the sessions and Presbyteries, to take such action thereon as in their judgment the laws of Christianity require."

The following members voted in the AFFIRMATIVE:

Messrs. Dobie, Leonard, White, Hitchcock, Bassett, Tyler, Payson, Bacon, Lathrop, Nelson, Gelston, Fancher, Tuttle, Benedict, B. C. Smith, Mills, Monson, Hollister, Jesse Smith, Somers, Sunderland, Wisner, Heacock, Bryant, Wood, Sayre, Wiswell, Stiles, Mason, Spear, Arms, J. F. Tuttle, Willis, G. W. Seward, Starr, Tittsworth, Rockwell, S. W. Gould, Malin, Sterling, P. F. Smith, J. F. Read, Streit, Gillett, S. G. Clark, Bissell, Canfield, Duffield, Fuller, Monteith, Taylor, Agnew, Russell, Hastings, Davis, C. Noble, Marvin, W. A. Smith, Kingsbury, Torrey, Ford, Skinner, D. Gould, Poage, Bushnell, Ghormley, Reynolds, Tiffany, Curtis, Thompson, Rogers, J. G. Wilson, Anderson, Hoffman, Graydon, Shaw, A. D. Seward, Glover, J. Wilson, Gibson, Howe, C. R. Clarke, Fisk, Porter, J. Wood, Wight, Walker,—87.

The following members voted in the NEGATIVE:

Messrs. J. H. Noble, J. H. Clark, Townsend, Gray, Barks, Boyd, Shepherd, C. H. Read, Phillips, Craig, McCorkle, Blackburn, Mills, Cleland, Dysart, Zivley,—16.

Against this action of the Assembly, the Rev. Charles H. Read, for himself and others, offered the following protest, which he wished to have entered in the Minutes; and his request was granted:

"The undersigned members of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, now in session in Detroit, believing conscientiously that the interests of Church and State of the entire population of the

North, and South, and East, and West, will, under existing circumstances, not only not be promoted by the present action of the Assembly on the subject of Slavery, but will the rather be injured thereby,— [326] do hereby solemnly and respectfully protest against that action in our own name and in behalf of the Presbyteries we are here to represent. This protest we ask to have entered upon the Minutes of this General Assembly."

Signed.—Charles H. Read, Andrew Blackburn, A. H. H. Boyd, J. H. Zivley, B. Mills, George M. Phillips, J. B. Townsend, F. R. Gray."

At half past one o'clock, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 28th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Mileage reported that a small balance remained uncalled for in their hands. *Ordered*, that it be paid over to the Contingent Fund.

The rule in reference to the printed Minutes, adopted by the Assembly of 1849, (Minutes, p. 172,)* was adopted in reference to the Minutes of this Assembly.

Rev. Charles H. Read, from the Committee on the Narrative, made a report, which was adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Resolved, that the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to the N. Y. & Erie Railroad Company; to the Hudson River Railroad and Steamboat Company; and to the several railroad companies between Albany and Buffalo; to the proprietors of the Michigan Central Railroad and Lake Michigan Line of Steamers; to General Charles M. Read, of Erie; to the Detroit and Sandusky, the Monroe & Toledo Lines, and all others who have accommodated the members of this body in their passage to and from the city of Detroit, by a generous reduction of fares upon their several excellent and well arranged lines of conveyance.

Also, that thanks be tendered to the several proprietors of hotels in Detroit, for the courtesy and liberality shown by them to many of the Commissioners; also, to the Trustees of the First Presbyterian church in Detroit, for the use of their edifice, and various facilities for the business of the Assembly.

Also, to the many families in the city of Detroit whose unsurpassed hospitality has been shown to the members of the Assembly during a protracted session.

Resolved especially, that the General Assembly entertain a grateful sense of the very generous and entirely unexpected transmission to the members, by the superintendent of the Michigan Central Railroad Co., J. W. Brooks, Esq., of free tickets for a pleasure excursion after their sessions, to any place on the line of their railroad across the Peninsula, and on the line of their steamboats on Lake Michigan, from this city to Milwaukie and back; which generous expression of respect and courtesy to this body has contributed to enhance the pleasure of their visit and session in this city. [327]

Resolved, that the Permanent Clerk be directed to convey copies of the above resolutions to the persons for whom they are intended, and also to have them published in the papers of this city and elsewhere.

Ordered, that the salaries of the Stated and Permanent Clerks be paid.

The bill for the printing of the Roll and papers, amounting to $15, was ordered to be paid.

* Reprint, p. 213.

Also, the traveling expenses of Rev. G. N. Judd, D. D., as Delegate to Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Resolved, that the thanks of the Assembly be hereby expressed to the Moderator, for the patience, fidelity, and uninterrupted suavity, and gentleness of spirit and manner, as well as for his strict attention to the business before the body, with which he has discharged the duties of his office, through its protracted and onerous sessions.

Thanks, also, were tendered to the Temporary Clerk, for his uniform courtesy, and diligent faithfulness in the discharge of the duties devolving on him in his department.

On motion of J. H. Clark, M. D., *Resolved* unanimously, that the General Assembly regard the cause of Temperance with no less favor than in the days of its highest popularity, and would deprecate a return to the drinking usages of a former period, as one of the greatest evils to the Church and the world.

Resolved, that the cause of religion, of benevolence and of humanity, requires all who love our Lord Jesus Christ, to continue faithful to the cause of Temperance, holding themselves ready, at all times, when expedient, to present it from the pulpit, and by every suitable means to promote its interests.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Roll was called, and the following members were recorded, and ordered to be reported to their respective Presbyteries, as absent without leave: Rev. Robert P. Stanton and Elder John R. Bullock, of the Presbytery of Albany; Rev. Roswell D. Pettibone and Elder Harvey D. Smith, of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence; Elder Charles McLean, of the Presbytery of Utica; Elder E. P. Healy, M. D., of the Presbytery of Ithaca; Elder Eli Woods, of the Presbytery of Genesee; Rev. Joel Wakeman, of the Presbytery of Angelica; Elder David N. Murray, of the Presbytery of Scioto; Elder George T. Layfield, of the Presbytery of Cincinnati; Elder E. B. Ayers, of the Presbytery of Illinois; and Rev. Ichabod A. Hart, of the Presbytery of Belvidere.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for dissolving the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved; and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the city of Utica, New York, at such place as the Committee of Arrangements shall designate, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1851, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

E. W. GILBERT,
Permanent Clerk.

Detroit, Mich., May 28th, 1850.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1850.

The history of the dealings of God with our Zion during the past year, and the statement of the present spiritual condition and prospects of the

churches in our ecclesiastical fellowship, which the many friends of Christ and religion expect at our hands, must necessarily be gathered from the more or less complete narratives sent up from the several Presbyteries in our connection. Whatever we might have occasion to rejoice in, or to deplore,—as viewed from the several stand-points of observation occupied by us individually,—we are expected in this paper to speak as those who have walked about the walls, through the streets and in the tabernacles of our beloved Zion, noticing candidly the strength and the weakness, the progress and decline, the things that are sorrowful or hopeful, and to make a true report.

From one hundred and two Presbyteries on the Roll of this Assembly we have received sixty-eight narratives. Some of these are quite too vague and general to answer the design of the Assembly, or to be of any use to the Committee to whom they have been referred. Others have evidently been prepared with conscientious consideration and care, furnishing precisely the staple facts and indications with which the whole Church should be made acquainted.

From a careful examination of the materials found in these narratives, and after listening to the statements made on the floor of the Assembly the following items are deemed worthy of public notice:—

1. The Evidences of External Prosperity.

We take pleasure in recording the fact, that while the ground formerly occupied under religious culture has, in the main, been well maintained,—new and extended efforts have been made over territory not before possessed by us. Not a few of our old churches have been greatly strengthened;—new and commodious edifices have taken the place of those that were dilapidated; a large amount of debt, for which the property of the churches was held as security, and the interest of which was burdensome, has been by generous private subscriptions liquidated; a considerable number of new church-edifices, upon new ground, have been erected, and new preaching stations occupied by missionary enterprise.

It deserves also to be noticed, in counterpart of this general statement, that owing to changes of population, diversions of trade to new centres, and sometimes for want of a due regard to the importance of a settled ministry and suitable support of pastors—here and there a church has been dissolved and an enterprise abandoned.

2. The Spiritual Condition of the Churches.

Under this general head the narratives and statements of the brethren lead us to notice,

1st. The feelings cherished among the people in populous districts respecting the regular services of the sanctuary, and a well-educated and settled ministry,—in contrast with impulsive irregular efforts, and temporary supplies.

Whatever the necessities of some sparsely settled portions of our country may dictate—it would seem to be the growing conviction of ministers and people—that steadfast and persevering labor upon fields well fenced in by the divinely accredited ordinances and means of grace,—where the pastor and people take deep root and grow together in sanctified affections and sympathies, and have an eye to permanent results,—are best calculated to promote the elevation of society, the salvation of souls and the glory of God. We hail it as an omen of future good, as it is a sign of present peace

and healthful sentiment, that there is a growing attachment between settled pastors and their people; a looking to God for dews and showers of his grace upon well-cultivated fields; and less dependence upon "a floating, unattached, irresponsible ministry."

It is greatly to be desired that this sentiment may prevail, and be extended over some portions of our Zion where its importance does not seem to be appreciated.

2d. The reports indicate an earnest sensibility on the part of many of the Presbyteries respecting

The Sanctification of the Sabbath.

That this holy day of God is one of the chief pillars of safety to the Church, the State and the best interests of humanity, is most clearly established by the word and providence of God, and by the history of our race. That true spiritual religion cannot flourish when this holy day is disregarded, or loosely observed,—is plain without argument; and yet it is a lamentable fact that some of the operations of our National Government, the employment of a very large amount of publicly-chartered and private capital, and the business and social usages of individuals, put dishonor on this divine institution. While, therefore, we have occasion to mourn and humble ourselves before God that these things are so, we rejoice that the Presbyteries are awake to the serious importance of this subject, and that it is noticed in so many of the reports with a holy sorrow, which, it is hoped, will lead to the promotion of a purer public and private sentiment in every portion of the Church, and throughout our beloved country.

It appears that the recent opening of new and great thoroughfares of travel and transportation of merchandise, and the migration of masses of people, have had the effect to disturb the former quietness of not a few places in our country, on the Sabbath day; hence, in addition to the previous greater or less profanation or indifference, there is now in many places much noise and confusion; crowds of idle and curious persons are gathered at railroad depots, at steamboat wharfs, and about the hotel and canal stations; encouragement is too frequently given to the vulgar and ignorant by the frequent mingling in such scenes of those who hold respectable and influential positions in society, and thus the Sabbath of God is desecrated, public worship disturbed, and the hearts of the pious deeply grieved. In view of this state of things, it becomes the people of God to be firmly conscientious, and to write "Holiness unto the Lord" on this day by precept and example.

3d. Again—under this general head we are called upon to notice

Spirituality in Personal Religion,

in contrast and in conflict with the strong tide of worldliness and covetousness which rises around and invades the Church.

The prominence which this particular occupies in many of the Presbyterial Reports would seem to demand more than a passing notice. There is evidently a great and special necessity now, and among us, for deep-seated and enlightened religious principle on the part of all Christians. All light and loose materials in society are caught up and borne along by the increased activity of all the worldly elements.

Religious principles and affections are now put to a severe test by the increased temptations and resistance which they have to contend with and overcome. Nothing but a vital union with Christ and the inhabitation of

the Holy Spirit will avail the professor of religion at such a time as this. There is an evident necessity that the voice of kind and faithful warning should not only be heard from the pulpit, addressed to the assembled congregation, but also that there should be much direct personal exhortation and application of truth, with meekness and love.

The spirit of worldliness is the more insidious and dangerous, for that it cannot be so distinctly defined as may some cardinal error in doctrine, or some overt sins: it is an enbosoming atmosphere rather than a distinct form, or opinion; we live in it and breathe it continually, and unless there be a positive and powerful pre-occupation of the mind and heart of the Christian by the knowledge, love and fear of God, he will wither under this moral pestilence.

Here again we have reason for encouragement in the fact that this is a felt evil, a realized danger on the part of the brethren who have united their testimony in the reports sent up; and as it is one of God's modes of dealing with his people—to make them see and feel their own danger, and the danger of others, in order that they may be put on their guard, feel their dependence, and look to Him for help,—we would indulge the hope, that what is spread out in the reports upon this subject is but the reflection and echo of His light and voice, shining and speaking in and through the hearts of the brethren. The mere faint hope of salvation from a faintly realized risk of perdition to the soul, is not enough wherewithal to stem the tide of worldliness, and overcome the lusts of the flesh, of the eye, and the pride of life: there must be more than this; yea, there must be the principle and the power of holiness, an enthroning of God-in-Christ in the heart, and a captivity of the soul to the obedience of FAITH.

4th. Family Religion and Faithful Instruction of Youth and Children.

The importance of the latter of these duties is frequently adverted to, as a matter of growing estimation, in many of the narratives; and the necessity of the former is plainly indicated. It is an occasion of hopeful rejoicing, that, in connection with a faithful instruction of our youth and children in the Holy Scriptures, in the family, the Bible class, and the Sabbath-school; the Assembly's Catechism is being restored and is growing in favor among our people. This is an omen full of good. It is to be hoped that while Bible classes and Sabbath-schools may be steadily and cordially sustained, they will in no case be regarded by Christian parents as a substitute for home instruction. No parent can excuse himself from the holy duty and privilege of carefully teaching his own children by reason of the kindest and most faithful offices of any one out of his own house. The family is one of God's most merciful and blessed institutions in this world. Intelligent piety finds here its strongest asylum, and here its sanctifying and elevating influences should be most sedulously cherished. The Hebrew commonwealth had its prominent elements of beauty and of strength in the family tie and family religion. Let there be cultivated an intelligent, meditative piety in the bosom of each Christian family, and we may not doubt that peace, purity and stability will be the characteristics of our churches, and a legacy for which other generations will bless us.

5th. Benevolence in Support of Religious Institutions.

In this respect, while the general standard is very low and we have reason

for humility rather than boasting, or even self gratulation, there is ground of encouragement.

In some of our churches the benevolent action in the way of strengthening our position and extending the Gospel through the agency of the Bible, Tract, Home and Foreign Missionary Societies has been systematized; pains have been taken to educate the mind and heart and the policy of life in harmony with the grand design of these and kindred enterprises; and it has been found that the promises of God to those who devise liberal things is faithful.

6th. Revivals of Religion.

We are called upon to acknowledge with devout gratitude many delightful refreshings from the special presence of the Holy Spirit among the churches. Reports of the revival of the tone of piety among Christians, and the conversion of the impenitent, come to us from almost all sections of our beloved Zion.

These blessings have come down, in most cases, very silently, upon churches enjoying the stated administrations of the Gospel, without much stir or observation; and yet the result has been the very manifest advancement of the kingdom of Christ—in the edification of his people and the salvation of sinners. And, lest we should forget our complete and encouraging dependence on the sovereign grace of God, it deserves attention—that, in some cases, blessed seasons of refreshing and extension to the Church have been enjoyed by some of the churches, which were at the time destitute of a pastor. We can but hope—as we would most fervently pray—that a period of merciful visitation has begun to dawn upon us, and that this fiftieth year is to be indeed a jubilee to our land and the world

7th. Successful Preaching of the Gospel among the Colored Population in the South.

The following brief extract from the narrative of the Presbytery of South Lexington is introduced as a specimen of the reports from our Southern churches: "The servants are cared for, and in some of our parishes the Gospel is preached to them as regularly as to the whites. They appreciate the glad tidings in some degree and many give pleasing proof of being new creatures in Jesus Christ."

In summing up the results of the ecclesiastical year, we have reason for profound humiliation and for devout gratitude to the Great Head of the Church. It has, upon the whole, been a year of progress, and, in some respects, we trust, of consolidation and increased activity under the blessing of God.

The frightful pestilence which was casting its dark pall over our country about the time of the dissolution of the Assembly of 1849, and which soon girded our nation and penetrated many sections, leaving its path distinct with sepulchres, desolating many hearth-stones, and cutting down not a few of the watchmen upon the walls of Zion, was not permitted to any considerable extent to invade our ministerial ranks or our congregations. May we all be enabled henceforth to say: "The life which thou hast made thy care, Lord, I devote to thee." It becomes our mournful duty, however, to record the fact that the following ministers of our Church have departed this life during the past year.

DEATHS OF MINISTERS.

Loren W. Haven,	of the Presbytery of	Utica.
Abijah P. Beebee,	"	"
John W. Adams, D. D.,	"	Onondaga.
Ethan Smith,	"	"
Oren Catlin,	"	Buffalo.
John D. Gardiner,	"	Long Island.
Josephus B. Loring,	"	New York, 4th.
William B. Lewis,	"	Brooklyn.
Stephen H. Gloucester,	"	Philadelphia, 4th.
Robert Cathcart, D. D.,	"	Harrisburgh.
Amos Chase,	"	Meadville.
Nathaniel Latham,	"	Grand River.
N. W. Fisher,	"	Huron.
John McCrea,	"	Medina.
Ira Dunning,	"	Detroit.
Julius Steele,	"	St. Joseph.
David Cushing,	"	Scioto.
James Osgood,	"	Cincinnati.
John M. Dickey,	"	Madison.
Thomas J. Haswell,	"	Schuyler.
Amnon Gaston,	"	Knox.
Royal N. Wright,	"	Belvidere.
John Mines, D. D.,	"	District of Columbia.
James H. Gass,	"	Union.
Joseph Sherman,	"	West Tennessee.

The statements made upon the floor of the Assembly by Delegates, and the written reports from Corresponding Bodies, to wit, The General Associations of Connecticut and New Hampshire, the General Conference of Maine, and the Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin, afford gratifying evidence of general peace, purity and progress in these several branches of the Church and members of the body of Christ.

By order of the General Assembly.

DAVID H. RIDDLE, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

Detroit, May 28th, 1850.

STATISTICAL REPORT

Of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1850.

Synods and Presbyteries.

The General Assembly has under its care twenty Synods, comprising one hundred and two Presbyteries, viz.:

1. The Synod of Albany comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: Champlain, Troy, Albany, Columbia, and Delaware.

2. The Synod of Utica comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: St. Lawrence, Watertown, Oswego, Otsego and Utica.

3. The Synod of Geneva comprises ten Presbyteries, viz.: Onondaga, Cayuga, Geneva, Cortland, Chenango, Tioga, Bath, Chemung, Ithaca, and Pennsylvania.

4. The Synod of Genesee comprises six Presbyteries, viz.: Genesee, Ontario, Rochester, Niagara, Buffalo, and Angelica.

5. The Synod of New York and New Jersey comprises ten Presbyteries, viz.: Hudson, North River, Long Island, New York 3d, New York 4th, Brooklyn, Newark, Rockaway, Montrose, and San Francisco.

6. The Synod of Pennsylvania comprises four Presbyteries, viz.: Wilmington, Philadelphia 3d, Philadelphia 4th, and Harrisburgh.

7. The Synod of West Pennsylvania comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Erie, Meadville, and Pittsburgh.

8. The Synod of Western Reserve comprises eight Presbyteries, viz.: Grand River, Portage, Huron, Trumbull, Cleveland, Medina, Elyria, and Maumee.

9. The Synod of Michigan comprises seven Presbyteries, viz.: Detroit, St. Joseph, Monroe, Marshall, Washtenaw, Kalamazoo, and Ionia.

10. The Synod of Ohio comprises four Presbyteries, viz.: Athens, Pataskala, Franklin, and Scioto.

11. The Synod of Cincinnati comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Cincinnati, Dayton, and Hamilton.

12. The Synod of Indiana comprises six Presbyteries, viz.: Salem, Madison, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, Logansport, and Fort Wayne.

13. The Synod of Illinois comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: Illinois, Schuyler, Palestine, Alton, and Des Moines.

14. The Synod of Peoria comprises six Presbyteries, viz.: Ottawa, Peoria, Knox, Galena, Chicago, and Belvidere.

15. The Synod of Missouri comprises four Presbyteries, viz.: St. Louis, Northern Missouri, Lexington and Osage.

16. The Synod of Virginia comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Winchester, District of Columbia, and Hanover.

17. The Synod of Tennessee comprises five Presbyteries, viz.: Union, Holston, Kingston, New River, and Chattahoochee.

18. The Synod of Kentucky comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Harmony, Providence, and Green River.

19. The Synod of West Tennessee comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: West Tennessee, Shiloh, and North Alabama.

20. The Synod of Mississippi comprises three Presbyteries, viz.: Clinton, S. Lexington, and Newton.

SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL SCHEDULE.

SYNODICAL ORDER.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Comm. Fund.	Contng. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	5	98	...	1	86	387	179	10,555	77	224	$115 67	$ 3 00	A. Bordman Lambert.
1. Champlain	1814	...	24	...	1	20	150	51	2,736	23	110	.....	.....	David Dobie.
2. Troy	1820	...	19	...	...	21	109	74	3,027	23	42	38 67	.....	A. Bordman Lambert.
3. Albany	1791	...	11	...	...	8	76	37	1,296	26	34	26 00	.....	Thomas S. Wickes.
4. Columbia	1802	...	25	...	...	18	52	17	2,208	5	38	51 00	3 00	Josiah Leonard.
5. Delaware	1831	...	19	...	...	19	...	...	1,288	...	...	.....	.....	Isaac D. Cornwell.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	5	84	4	...	99	407	276	9,197	121	161	116 51	15 33	
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	7	...	...	9	34	32	863	5	32	15 00	3 00	Baruck B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	13	...	...	22	120	41	2,421	49	22	40 00	1 75	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego	1823	...	14	1	...	23	37	38	1,303	...	...	.....	.....	Robert W. Condit, D. D.
4. Otsego	1820	...	13	...	...	20	66	34	1,684	20	21	17 85	1 00	Charles K. McHarg.
5. Utica	1842	...	37	3	...	25	150	131	2,926	47	86	43 66	9 58	Samuel W. Brace.
III. Synod of Geneva	1812	10	214	27	8	197	514	483	20,765	201	325	206 98	.....	Henry A. Nelson.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	33	...	...	27	53	74	2,981	20	58	33 00	.....	Richard F. Cleaveland.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	34	14	4	24	17	73	2,692	26	6	34 63	.....	Henry A. Nelson.
3. Geneva	1805	...	43	4	...	32	100	107	4,735	45	83	17 10	.....	William Hogarth.
4. Cortland	1825	...	13	...	...	16	59	44	1,776	19	44	18 00	.....	Hercules R. Dunham.
5. Chenango	1826	...	14	2	3	16	73	29	1,582	28	28	25 50	.....	Amos C. Tuttle.
6. Tioga	1829	...	17	...	...	15	37	51	1,943	10	22	5 00	.....	Philip C. Hay, D. D.
7. Bath	1817	...	17	1	...	18	82	23	1,526	27	23	13 75	.....	Robert E. Willson.
8. Chemung	1836	...	18	1	1	21	62	55	1,407	18	35	22 00	.....	Charles C. Carr.
9. Ithaca	1839	...	14	5	...	15	19	8	1,745	7	5	38 00	.....	Solomon R. Seofield.
10. Pennsylvania	1845	...	11	...	...	13	12	19	378	1	21	.....	.....	Samuel J. McCullough.
IV. Synod of Genesee	1821	6	131	4	2	137	269	207	15,461	104	163	35 62	.....	Timothy Stillman.
1. Genesee	1819	...	17	...	...	18	76	25	1,804	36	11	.....	.....	John B. Preston.
2. Ontario *	1817	...	16	...	...	25	...	...	2,831	...	...	.....	....	John Barnard, Jr.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

3. Rochester*	1819	...	31	...	...	23	...	...	3,662	...	...	.....	.....	John B. Richardson.
4. Niagara	1817	...	19	1	...	16	59	67	2,208	22	48	27 62	.....	William N. McHarg.
5. Buffalo	1823	...	38	2	2	36	82	100	3,256	26	80	.....	.....	Timothy Stillman.
6. Angelica	1828	...	10	1	...	19	52	15	1,700	20	24	8 00	.....	Joel Wakeman.
V. Synod of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	10	181	37	17	127	704	676	22,413	267	621	217 98	44 79	John N. Lewis.
1. Hudson	1797	...	12	1	1	12	79	18	1,723	35	36	38 00	.....	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	13	2	3	14	43	31	1,759	20	28	.....	7 00	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	11	...	...	6	18	8	628	11	17	10 00	2 00	George F. Wiswell.
4. New York, Third	1831	...	32	13	6	14	112	170	4,967	30	152	60 42	10 00	Edwin F. Hatfield.
5. New York, Fourth	1845	...	24	13	2	12	66	90	3,006	12	119	36 10	.....	Erskine Mason, D. D.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	19	3	4	7	69	91	1,938	20	59	.....	25 79	Jonathan M. Rowland.
7. Newark	1824	...	30	5	...	17	119	157	3,711	34	103	68 46	.....	Ebenezer Seymour.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	19	...	...	18	144	43	2,580	89	27	5 00	.....	Joel Campbell.
9. Montrose	1832	...	17	...	1	26	54	68	2,101	16	80	.....	.....	Adam Miller.
10. San Francisco	1849	...	6	...	...	1	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	Samuel H. Willey.
VI. Synod of Pennsylvania.	1838	4	67	8	3	64	360	278	10,780	60	460	73 10	29 95	John Crowell.
1. Wilmington	1832	...	16	2	...	18	60	29	1,389	12	63	2 60	2 25	J. Edson Rockwell.
2. Philadelphia, Third	1832	...	15	2	...	15	107	37	3,557	12	147	6 50	.....	John Crowell.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth	1845	...	24	4	3	22	146	192	4,730	34	216	12 00	26 70	Charles Brown.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	12	...	...	9	47	20	1,104	2	34	52 00	1 00	Conway P. Wing.
VII. Synod of W. Penn'vania.	1843	3	17	...	...	32	61	45	2,436	19	130	30 21	5 25	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	7	...	...	15	18	26	1,066	2	40	30 21	2 50	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	5	...	...	12	29	11	739	11	55	.....	1 50	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	5	...	...	5	14	8	631	6	35	.....	1 25	Benjamin F. Wallace.
VIII. Synod of W. Reserve	1825	8	130	19	1	127	161	206	8,566	26	194	26 92	9 00	William Hanford.
1. Grand River	1814	...	17	...	...	17	9	4	1,177	3	15	.....	.....	Alanson Saunders.
2. Portage	1818	...	28	10	1	15	40	34	1,307	8	39	2 00	2 00	William Hanford.
3. Huron	1823	...	18	1	...	22	33	10	1,647	...	17	2 50	4 00	Jonathan B. Parlin.
4. Trumbull	1827	...	15	2	...	19	23	22	1,375	2	43	.....	.....	Charles A. Boardman.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	22	2	...	14	41	92	1,436	7	38	19 42	3 00	Samuel T. Mills.
6. Medina*	1836	...	7	...	...	9	...	...	401	...	...	.....	.....	Sherman D. Taylor.
7. Elyria	1842	...	15	3	...	13	...	10	719	...	...	3 00	.....	Alfred H. Betts.
8. Maumee	1842	...	8	1	...	18	15	34	504	6	42	.....	.....	E. Richard Tucker.

SYNODICAL ORDER.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Comm. Fund.	Contingent. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
IX. Synod of Michigan	1834	7	96	1	1	117	421	363	7,011	128	217	$40 09	$28 76	George Duffield, D. D.
1. Detroit	1826	...	21	...	...	25	84	86	1,874	18	71	.....	.....	Robert R. Kellogg.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	17	...	1	28	68	38	1,326	19	22	15 00	1 00	Norman Kellogg.
3. Monroe	1833	...	10	...	...	15	12	28	783	8	38	16 00	10 00	John Monteith.
4. Marshall	1838	...	16	1	...	18	132	80	1,138	45	21	.....	6 50	Samuel H. Hall.
5. Washtenaw	1838	...	15	...	...	16	23	46	1,173	7	44	9 09	6 26	William S. Curtis.
6. Kalamazoo	1838	...	12	...	...	11	102	85	626	31	21	.....	5 00	Milton Bradley.
7. Ionia*	1845	...	5	...	...	4	...	...	91	...	...	.....	.....	Le Moyne S. Smith.
X. Synod of Ohio	1814	4	52	6	...	70	191	131	4,149	51	178	78 65	15 00	Addison Kingsbury.
1. Athens	1822	...	14	2	...	19	37	18	806	6	21	.....	5 00	Lucien C. Ford.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	13	2	...	29	37	30	1,650	10	48	.....	2 00	Alexander Duncan.
3. Franklin	1835	...	16	2	...	18	82	59	1,205	22	79	38 65	6 00	Henry L. Hitchcock.
4. Scioto	1845	...	9	...	...	11	35	24	488	13	30	40 00	2 00	Joseph Chester.
XI. Synod of Cincinnati	1829	3	36	9	4	43	245	122	2,910	63	132	83 80	10 75	Thornton A. Mills.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	16	9	4	16	96	55	1,397	25	49	69 00	8 00	David D. Gregory.
2. Dayton	1838	...	8	...	...	16	78	51	832	26	28	14 80	2 75	Daniel Rice.
3. Hamilton	1846	...	12	...	...	11	71	16	681	12	55	.....	.....	Daniel Tenney.
XII. Synod of Indiana	1826	6	67	3	...	111	516	262	4,759	180	299	182 28	13 95	Joseph G. Wilson.
1. Salem	1823	...	10	...	...	19	126	18	801	49	42	56 78	5 20	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	9	1	...	15	78	48	896	23	66	29 00	5 00	Harvey Curtis.
3. Crawfordsville	1825	...	18	1	...	22	57	41	951	17	29	.....	.....	James H. Johnston.
4. Indianapolis	1830	...	13	...	...	21	64	31	821	27	49	43 50	3 75	Clement E. Babb.
5. Logansport	1835	...	6	1	...	16	146	89	834	58	38	53 00	.....	Joseph G. Wilson.
6. Fort Wayne	1845	...	11	...	...	18	45	35	456	6	75	.....	.....	Alfred Hawes.
XIII. Synod of Illinois	1831	5	64	1	...	71	283	189	3,654	71	193	58 90	7 50	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois	1828	...	18	...	...	14	36	35	829	13	28	31 90	5 00	Livingston M. Glover.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	11	...	...	13	73	46	882	23	45	.....	.....	Henry C. Abernethy.

3. Wabash	1833	...	5	...	...	4	13	3	176	...	20	10 00	.....	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	21	1	...	26	116	69	1,350	25	72	10 00	.....	Augustus T. Norton.
5. Des Moines	1845	...	9	...	...	14	45	36	417	10	28	7 00	2 50	Glen Wood.
XIV. Synod of Peoria	1843	6	59	...	...	41	113	167	2,456	27	105	71 72	.....	Robert W. Patterson.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	11	...	...	7	8	24	187	2	16	2 00	.....	Nahum Gould.
2. Peoria	1836	...	6	...	...	7	21	14	323	3	11	6 40	.....	Joseph Fowler.
3. Knox	1838	...	7	...	...	4	28	22	506	6	28	8 50	.....	George W. Gale.
4. Galena	1842	...	12	...	...	13	12	35	512	5	15	24 35	.....	John C. Downer.
5. Chicago	1847	...	15	...	...	5	36	62	685	4	35	21 72	.....	Lewis H. Loss.
6. Belvidere	1847	...	8	...	...	5	8	10	243	7	...	8 75	.....	Ichabod A. Hart.
XV. Synod of Missouri	1832	4	42	1	3	52	198	126	2,199	83	127	47 00	7 50	Fincelius R. Gray.
1. St. Louis	1831	...	11	...	...	11	11	43	846	10	35	42 00	4 00	James B. Townsend.
2. Northern Missouri	1845	...	9	...	3	13	103	37	694	35	49	.....	.....	John Leighton.
3. Lexington	1845	...	12	1	...	14	71	37	323	31	25	4 00	2 25	Tapping S. Reeve.
4. Osage	1845	...	10	...	...	14	13	9	336	7	18	1 00	1 25	Isaac B. Ricketts.
XVI. Synod of Virginia	1788	3	42	9	6	43	172	93	3,715	58	163	45 75	10 00	John C. Smith.
1. Winchester	1794	...	12	2	2	17	49	10	953	16	20	26 75	.....	Patterson Fletcher.
2. District of Columbia	1831	...	13	2	1	11	39	45	1,459	13	100	.....	.....	Thomas James Shepherd.
3. Hanover	1838	...	17	5	3	15	84	38	1,303	29	43	19 00	10 00	Henry Smith.
XVII. Synod of Tennessee	1817	4	39	5	3	70	185	72	4,776	41	225	30 44	4 75	Fielding Pope.
1. Union	1797	...	17	5	3	29	28	31	1,945	7	124	13 44	1 00	Fielding Pope.
2. Holston	1826	...	10	...	...	13	129	38	1,421	31	82	17 00	2 50	Daniel Rogan.
3. Kingston *	1838	...	5	...	...	17	...	...	799	...	...	.....	.....	William B. Brown.
4. New River	1838	...	7	...	...	11	28	3	611	3	19	.....	1 25	George Painter.
XVIII. Synod of Kentucky	1802	3	12	1	6	22	77	9	915	43	28	60 00	.....	Archibald C. Dickerson.
1. Harmony	1842	...	3	1	5	8	11	6	424	9	22	.....	.....	E. Perkins Pratt.
2. Providence	1842	...	5	...	1	6	66	3	308	34	6	60 00	.....	Thomas H. Cleland.
3. Green River*	1842	...	4	...	...	8	...	...	183	...	...	.....	.....	Archibald C. Dickerson.
XIX. Synod of W. Tennessee	1826	3	24	2	2	37	157	42	2,188	84	122	.....	3 00	William Eagleton.
1. West Tennessee	1810	...	7	...	1	6	17	9	572	14	2	.....	75	Robert C. Garrison.

SYNODICAL ORDER.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Comm. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
2. Shiloh	1816	...	7	1	1	18	78	26	1,040	32	88	.....	.....	Amzi Bradshaw.
3. Richland	1824	...	10	1	...	13	62	7	576	38	32	.....	$2 25	Archibald M. Pickens.
XX. Synod of Mississippi	1846	3	16	...	3	22	29	19	892	10	29	.....	.....	Alexander Newton, D. D.
1. Clinton*	1832	...	5	...	3	6	...	...	225	...	...	.....	.....	George Moore.
2. South Lexington	1845	...	7	...	...	8	29	19	399	10	29	.....	.....	Charles M. Atkinson.
3. Newton*	1845	...	4	...	...	8	...	...	268	...	...	.....	.....	Duncan A. Campbell.

SCHEDULE OF SYNODS.

NAME.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Examination.	Added on Certificate.	Whole Number of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Commiss. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
1. Albany	1803	5	98	...	1	86	387	179	10,555	77	224	$115 67	$ 3 00	A. Bordman Lambert.
2. Utica	1829	5	84	4	...	99	407	276	9,197	121	161	116 51	15 33	
3. Geneva	1812	10	214	27	8	197	514	483	20,765	201	325	206 98	.....	Henry A. Nelson.
4. Genesee	1821	6	131	4	2	137	269	207	15,461	104	163	35 62	.....	Timothy Stillman.
5. N. York and N. Jersey	1788	10	183	37	17	127	704	676	22,413	267	621	217 98	44 79	John N. Lewis.
6. Pennsylvania	1838	4	67	8	3	64	360	278	10,780	60	460	73 10	29 95	John Crowell.
7. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	17	...	...	32	61	45	2,436	19	130	30 21	5 25	George A. Lyon, D. D.
8. Western Reserve	1825	8	130	19	1	127	161	206	8,566	26	194	26 92	9 00	William Hanford.
9. Michigan	1834	7	96	1	1	117	421	363	7,011	128	217	40 09	28 76	George Duffield, D. D.
10. Ohio	1814	4	52	6	...	70	191	131	4,149	51	178	78 65	15 00	Addison Kingsbury.
11. Cincinnati	1829	3	36	9	4	43	245	122	2,910	63	132	83 80	10 75	Thornton A. Mills.
12. Indiana	1826	6	67	3	...	111	516	262	4,759	180	299	182 28	13 95	Joseph G. Wilson.
13. Illinois	1831	5	64	1	...	71	283	189	3,654	71	193	58 90	7 50	George C. Wood.
14. Peoria	1843	6	59	...	...	41	113	167	2,456	27	105	71 72	.....	Robert W. Patterson.
15. Missouri	1832	4	42	1	3	52	198	126	2,199	83	127	47 00	7 50	Fincelius R. Gray.
16. Virginia	1788	3	42	9	6	43	172	93	3,715	58	163	45 75	10 00	John C. Smith.
17. Tennessee	1817	4	39	5	3	70	185	72	4,776	41	225	30 44	4 75	Fielding Pope.
18. Kentucky	1812	3	12	1	6	22	77	9	915	43	28	60 00	.....	Archibald C. Dickerson.
19. West Tennessee	1826	3	24	2	2	38	157	42	2,188	84	122	.....	3 00	William Eagleton.
20. Mississippi	1846	3	16	...	3	22	29	19	892	10	29	.....	.....	Alexander Newton, D. D.
		102	1,473	137	60	1,568	5,450	3,945	139,797	1,714	4,096	$1,521 62	$208 53	

COMPARATIVE VIEW.

It appears from the preceding schedule, that one hundred and two Presbyteries are, at present, in connection with the General Assembly. During the past year, the Presbyteries of Evansville and Chattahoochee, both of them very small, have been dissolved, and their ministers and churches attached to other Presbyteries. The names of two Presbyteries have been changed; Palestine to Wabash, and North Alabama to Richland.

Of these 102 Presbyteries, all but eight, viz. Ontario, Rochester, Medina, Ionia, Kingston, Green River, Clinton, and Newton, have presented their Statistical Reports; ninety-four in all; the largest number that have reported since 1837. Of these reports, however, some are very imperfect; in some cases, the number of church-members only having been presented; in others many churches are represented as not having reported at all to their Presbyteries. The actual number of additions during the year exceeds, therefore, considerably the number reported.

The accompanying summary shows a gratifying increase in almost every particular. The number of Ministers exceeds the number in 1849, by twenty-three, although not less than twenty-five have been removed by death. Seven more Licentiates are also reported than in the previous year; and two more Candidates. The number of Candidates is actually several-fold greater than reported, as more, than are here enumerated, are in connection with one of the four Theological Seminaries within the bounds of the Assembly, and many more are in the earlier stages of preparation. The Churches have increased by thirteen, and the Church-members by seven hundred and fifty. The number of Additions on Examination exceeds the average of the preceding three years, by two thousand and eighty-seven; and on Certificate, by seven hundred and seventy-five; of Baptisms also, the number of Adults is greater by seven hundred and seventy-seven, and of Infants, by one thousand four hundred and seventy-five. To the Commissioners' Fund, an increase of forty-seven dollars is reported, though it is now an annual, and not, as before, a triennial offering. In the contributions to the Contingent Fund, a decrease of more than one hundred and seventeen dollars is reported; a deficiency that should at once be supplied by some of the churches who have not yet presented their offerings to this Fund.

All which is respectfully submitted.

EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

New York, June 29th, 1850.

MINUTES, 1851.

Utica, N. Y., May 15th, 1851.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the city of Utica, in Concert Hall, the usual place of worship of the First Presbyterian church, (their church edifice having been consumed by fire), on Thursday, the 15th day of May, A. D. 1851, at 7½ o'clock, P. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. David H. Riddle, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from Isa. lxv. 8: "Thus saith the Lord, As the new wine is found in the cluster, and one saith, 'Destroy it not, for a blessing is in it,' so will I do for my servants' sakes, that I may not destroy them all."

After sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions presented their report, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled as duly-appointed Commissioners to this General Assembly, viz.:—

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	Silas R. Woodruff,	Hon. Sylvester Langdon,
	Andrew M. Millar,	H. H. Everest.
2. *Troy*,	Charles Doolittle,	R. J. Knowlson.
3. *Albany*,	Charles W. Treadwell,	J. W. Bulkley.
4. *Columbia*,	T. Woodbridge, D. D.,	Harvey Chittenden.
5. *Delaware*,	Francis Janes.	

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence.*		
2. *Watertown*,	Joseph A. Canfield.	
3. *Oswego*,	Samuel Sweezy,	John E. Dutton (2).*
4. *Otsego*,	Solomon J. Tracy,	J. Philips.
5. *Utica*,	John Waugh,	Thomas Williams,
	Franklin A. Spencer,	Calvin Bishop. [4]

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Onondaga*,	Addison K. Strong,	Hon. Elijah Rhoades.
	William W. Newell,	
2. *Cayuga*,	Samuel M. Hopkins,	Sylvester Willard, M. D.,
	John Tompkins,	Milton A. Kinney.
3. *Geneva*,	Horace Eaton,	Hon. Ebenezer B. Jones.
	Charles Hawley,	

* The figures show on what day of the sessions the Commissioner presented his credentials and took his seat.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
4. *Cortland*,	Thomas K. Fessenden,	Henry Stephens.
5. *Chenango*,	Hiram W. Gilbert,	John Foote (5).
6. *Tioga*,	Dennis Platt,	Alvan Wheeler, M. D.
7. *Bath*,	James H. Hotchkin,	John Emerson (6).
8. *Chemung*,	Charles C. Carr,	Ebenezer Conkling.
9. *Ithaca*,	David H. Hamilton.	
10. *Pennsylvania*,	Octavius Fitch (2),	William R. Shepherd.

IV. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Genesee*,	Charles N. Mattoon,	Hon. Aug. P. Hascall.
2. *Ontario.*		
3. *Rochester.*		
4. *Niagara*,	Albert H. Gaston,	Daniel Holmes.
5. *Buffalo*,	M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D.,	Moses Bristol, M. D.
	Richard M. Sanford,	
6. *Angelica*,	Daniel Russell (5).	

V. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Augustus Seward (2),	Benjamin Dunning (2).
2. *North River*,	Jonathan Silliman,	Peter Roe.
3. *Long Island*,	Amos E. Lawrence,	Samuel Phillips.
4. *New York, 3d*,	David B. Coe,	Lewis E. Jackson,
	James Knox,	John C. Hines.
5. *New York, 4th*,	Thomas H. Skinner, Jr.	
6. *Brooklyn*,	James W. McLane,	Abraham B. Conger.
7. *Newark*,	Jonathan B. Condit, D. D.,	John Taylor,
	Daniel G. Sprague (5),	Jonathan Provost.
8. *Rockaway*,	Burtis C. Megie,	George H. Thompson.
9. *Montrose*,	Samuel Whaley.	
10. *San Francisco.*		

VI. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	Horatio S. Howell.	
2. *Philadelphia, 3d*,	George Chandler,	John Clouds.
3. *Philadelphia, 4th*,	Albert Barnes,	Hon. William Strong (2),
	Joel Parker, D. D.,	J. Marshall Paul, M. D. (2).
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Jeremiah Miller,	John B. Hall.

VII. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	Joseph Vance,	Dyer Loomis.
2. *Meadville*,	William Johns.	
3. *Pittsburgh*,	David H. Riddle, D. D.	[5]

VIII. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	Robert R. Kellogg,	Eurotas P. Hastings.
2. *St. Joseph*,	John W. Cunningham,	William B. Cory.
3. *Monroe*,	George C. Curtis.	
4. *Marshall*,	Elihu P. Marvin.	
5. *Washtenaw*,	Alanson Scofield (2),	William C. Vanhorn.
6. *Kalamazoo*,	James McLaurin.	
7. *Ionia.*		

IX. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Grand River*,	Edmund F. Dickinson.	
2. *Portage*,	Eleroy Curtis,	Amos Seward.
3. *Huron*,	Newton Barrett.	
4. *Trumbull*,	George D. Young.	
5. *Cleveland*,		Elisha Taylor.
6. *Medina*,	Israel Shailer.	
7. *Elyria.*		
8. *Maumee*,	James H. Newton (2),	Henry Reed.

X. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Roswell Tenney.	
2. *Pataskala*,	Henry Calhoun (2).	
3. *Franklin*,	Henry L. Hitchcock.	
4. *Scioto*,	Augustine Bardwell.	

XI. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	Thornton A. Mills,	E. S. Padgett.
2. *Dayton*,	Daniel Rice,	D. M. Curtis.
3. *Hamilton*,	Benjamin Graves,	Daniel Bushnell.

XII. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	John M. Bishop,	John Loughmiller, Sen.
2. *Madison*,	Benjamin F. Morris,	Thurston Wood (2).
3. *Indianapolis*,	Clement E. Babb,	John L. Ketcham.
4. *Greencastle*,	Ransom Hawley,	Anson C. Potwin (2).

XIII. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	James H. Johnston.	
2. *Logansport*,	Joseph G. Wilson,	John Heald, M. D.
3. *Fort Wayne*,	Alexander Lemon.	

XIV. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	Hugh Barr.	
2. *Schuyler*,	Alexander B. Campbell.	
3. *Wabash*,	Enoch Kingsbury (6).	
4. *Alton*,	Lemuel Grosvenor.	
5. *Des Moines*,	S. Storrs Howe.	[6]

XV. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa*,	James H. Baldwin.	
2. *Peoria and Knox.*		
3. *Galena*,	Edmund D. Holt.	
4. *Chicago*,	Lewis H. Loss,	William H. Brown.
5. *Belvidere*,	Charles Fanning.	
6. *Minnesota*,	Joseph C. Whitney.	
7. *Milwaukie*,	William H. Spencer (4).	

XVI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *St. Louis*,	Edmund Wright.	
2. *Northern Missouri*,	Hervey H. Hayes.	
3. *Lexington.*		
4. *Osage*,	George A. M. Renshaw.	

XVII. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester*,	Patterson Fletcher,	Walter Somerville, M. D.
2. *D. of Columbia*,	Randolph A. Smith,	Jacob Gideon.
3. *Hanover*,	Edward H. Cumpston,	David B. Payne.

XVIII. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

1. *Harmony*,	E. Perkins Pratt,
2. *Providence.*	
3. *Green River*,	Archer C. Dickerson.

XIX. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union*,	Gideon S. White.
2. *Holston*,	Samuel Sawyer (3).
3. *Kingston.*	
4. *New River*,	James McChain.

XX. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

1. *West Tennessee*,	Frederick A. Thompson,	Donald Cameron.
2. *Shiloh*,	Alfred H. Dashiell.	
3. *Richland*,	James N. Bradshaw.	

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

1. *Clinton.*
2. *South Lexington.*
3. *Newton.*

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

General Association of Connecticut.	
" " *Massachusetts*,	Rev. Francis Horton, Rev. Lorenzo Carey.
" " *New Hampshire*,	Rev. Isaac Willey.
General Conference of Maine,	Rev. Uriah Balkam.
General Convention of Vermont,	Rev. Cyrus B. Drake. [7]
General Evan. Consociation of R. Island.	
Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin,	Rev. John Gridley.
General Synod of the Lutheran Church in the United States.	
General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.	
General Association of New York,	Rev. Direk C. Lansing, D. D.
General Assembly of the Cumberland Pres. Church.	

The Committee further reported the case of Mr. William C. Vanhorn,

Elder from the Presbytery of Washtenaw, whose Commission was defective in form.

The Rev. James H. Hotchkin, Rev. Jonathan B. Condit, D. D., and Elder Eurotas P. Hastings. were appointed a *Committee of Elections*, to whom the above case was referred. *Ordered*, that any Commissioners, who may be in similar circumstances, be referred to the same Committee.

An application was presented from the Presbytery of Milwaukie, to be received into connection with the General Assembly, which was referred to the same Committee.

To-morrow, at 7½ o'clock P. M., was designated as the time for hearing the sermon on Home Missions.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M., the first half-hour to be appropriated to devotional exercises.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 16th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. After which, half an hour was occupied in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Elections made a report; and, on their recommendation, Elder William C. Vanhorn, from the Presbytery of Washtenaw, notwithstanding the defect in his Commission, was received as a member, and his name entered on the Roll.

The consideration of the communication from the Presbytery of Milwaukie was, on the recommendation of the same Committee, deferred until the Assembly be fully organized.

The Assembly proceeded to the election of Moderator. The Rev. Albert Barnes, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, was unanimously elected, and inducted into office in the usual form.

The Rev. Samuel M. Hopkins, of the Presbytery of Cayuga, was unanimously elected Temporary Clerk.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Resolved, That the Assembly will hold its daily sessions from 9 o'clock A. M. to 12 M.; and from 2 to 5 o'clock P. M.

The printed Minutes of the last Assembly were, according to rule, distributed to the members.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk. [8]

Ordered, that the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Clerks, for the use of the members.

The reception of memorials, Overtures, Narratives, and Statistical Reports, was made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 9½ o'clock, A. M.

The reception of Synodical Records was made the order of the day for this P. M at 2 o'clock.

It was *Ordered*, that the contributions for the funds of the Assembly be called for this P. M. at 5 o'clock; that the contributions to the Commissioners' Fund be paid into the hands of the Committee on Mileage; and that the contributions to the Contingent Fund be paid into the hands of the Stated Clerk.

The reports of the Delegates from the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies were called for. Reports were received from the Rev. David Dobie, Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont; from the Rev. Lewis H. Loss, Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin; from the Rev. David H. Riddle, D. D., Delegate to the Gen-

eral Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States; and from the Rev. Samuel M. Hopkins, Delegate to the General Association of New York.

Ordered, that the foregoing reports be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes; and that the report of the Delegate to the General Association of New York, and the subject of correspondence with that body, be referred to the Committee to be appointed on the Polity of the Church.

The nomination of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies was made the order of the day for Tuesday next, at 9½ o'clock. A. M.

Several copies of the printed Minutes of Corresponding Bodies were received and distributed to the several Synods, and to the officers of the Assembly.

The accounts of the Treasurer and of the Stated Clerk were received and referred to an *Auditing Committee*, consisting of Messrs. Sylvester Willard, M. D., John C. Hines, and John Taylor.

A letter of resignation was received from the Treasurer, Thomas Fleming, Esq., which was accepted; and the thanks of the Assembly were returned to Mr. Fleming for his long and faithful services.

Mr. Anthony P. Halsey, an Elder of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, was unanimously elected Treasurer.

The election of Trustees of the Theological Seminaries was postponed to the next Assembly.

The nomination of the *preacher on Home Missions* was referred to a *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. Thornton A. Mills and Lewis H. Loss; and Elder Elisha Taylor.

Nominations of a place for the meeting of the next Assembly were made; when the further consideration of the subject was postponed for the present.

A *Committee*, consisting of Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., Rev. Franklin A. Spencer, and Mr. Thomas Williams, was appointed to report on the propriety of obtaining a more convenient *place for holding the sessions* of the Assembly.

Adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 16th, 2 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following new Commissioners, whose names were placed on the Roll of the Assembly, viz.:—

Rev. Augustus Seward,	from the	Presbytery	of Hudson.
Elder Benjamin Dunning,	"	"	"
Rev. Alanson Scofield,	"	"	Washtenaw.
Elder Hon. William Strong,	"	"	Philadelphia, 4th.
Elder J. Marshall Paul, M. D.,	"	"	"
Elder Anson C. Potwin,	"	"	Greencastle.
Rev. Albert H. Gaston,	"	"	Niagara.
Elder Thurston Wood,	"	"	Madison.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:—

1. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—David H. Riddle, D. D., Timothy Woodbridge, D. D., Jonathan B. Condit, D. D., and Joseph G. Wilson. *Elders*—Jacob Gideon, J. Marshall Paul, M. D., and Sylvester Willard, M. D.

2. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Joel Parker, D. D., Gideon S. White,

Joseph Vance, and Lewis H. Loss. *Elders*—Walter Somerville, M. D., E. S. Padgett, and Moses Bristol, M. D.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—James H. Hotchkin, James H. Johnston, Hervey H. Hayes, and Thornton A. Mills. *Elders*—Hon. William Strong, Hon. Augustus P. Hascall, and John L. Ketcham.

4. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—Franklin A. Spencer, George Chandler, and Joseph C. Whitney. *Elders*—Calvin Bishop and Abraham B. Conger.

5. *Narrative. Ministers*—M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., Dirck C. Lansing, D. D., Edward H. Cumpston, and John M. Bishop.

6. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—James W. McLane, Silas R. Woodruff, and Jonathan Silliman. *Elders*—William R. Shepherd and Donald Cameron.

7. *Mileage. Elders*—Eurotas P. Hastings, Jacob Gideon, and Hon. Sylvester Langdon.

The thanks of the Assembly were tendered to the Rev. Dr. Riddle for his excellent sermon delivered last evening; and a copy thereof was requested for publication.

The Assembly took up the subject of the place for the meeting of the next Assembly. All other nominations having been withdrawn, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the next Assembly meet in the city of Washington, in the Fourth Presbyterian church, on the third Thursday of May, A. D., 1852, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Rev. Messrs. John C. Smith, Elisha Ballantine, and James B. Eckard, with Messrs Jacob Gideon, W. H. Campbell, and William P. Young, were appointed a *Committee of Arrangements* for the meeting.

The Committee appointed to report on another place for holding our daily sessions, presented a report, recommending that the Assembly [10] accept of the invitation of the Bleecker Street Baptist church; and that the sessions of this body, after to-day, be held in their place of worship.

The report was adopted, and the thanks of the Assembly were tendered to the Westminster church and to the Reformed Dutch church of this city, for the offer of their houses for the use of the Assembly during this meeting.

The Committee appointed by a former Assembly to prepare a Digest reported progress, and were continued.

The Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., was appointed in the place of Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., deceased, on the Committee to inquire into the subject of the legacy of William Brown, Esq., of Greenville, Tennessee; and also in reference to the legacy of the late Isaac Keith, D. D., of Charleston, South Carolina.

The application from the Presbytery of Milwaukie, the consideration of which had been deferred, was taken up, and referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church, to report as soon as possible.

The Assembly resolved to hear the agents of benevolent societies on Monday, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Committee appointed to prepare and publish a new edition of the Constitution of the Church reported that a new edition had been published by Mr. Henry Perkins of Philadelphia; copies of which, handsomely bound and lettered, were presented to the Assembly for the use of the Moderator and Clerks.

The thanks of the Assembly were tendered to Mr. Perkins for his acceptable donation.

The Committee, appointed by the last Assembly, on the "*Erection of Presbyteries in Foreign Lands*," not having made a report, were discharged; and

the subject was recommitted to a new *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., Rev. Thornton A. Mills, Rev. James W. McLane, and Elders William Strong and Lewis E. Jackson.

The Moderator announced the Committees appointed to examine Synodical Records: On the Records of the Synod of

1. *Albany.* *Ministers*—Joseph A. Canfield and Frederick A. Thompson. *Elder*—J. Philips.

2. *Utica.* *Ministers*—James Knox and Addison K. Strong. *Elder*—Elijah Rhoades.

3. *Geneva.* *Ministers*—Charles N. Mattoon and E. Perkins Pratt. *Elder*—Hon. Augustus P. Hascall.

4. *Genesee.* *Ministers*—Jonathan Silliman and Archer C. Dickerson. *Elder*—Peter Roe.

5. *New York and New Jersey.* *Ministers*—Horatio S. Howell and Gideon S. White. *Elder*—John Clouds.

6. *Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Joseph Vance and Patterson Fletcher. *Elder*—Dyer Loomis.

7. *West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Edmund F. Dickinson and Randolph A. Smith. *Elder*—Amos Seward.

8. *Michigan.* *Ministers*—Roswell Tenney and Francis Janes. *Elder*—E. S. Padgett.

9. *Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—Robert R. Kellogg and Edward H. Cumpston. *Elder*—Eurotas P. Hastings. [11]

10. *Ohio.* *Ministers*—Thornton A. Mills and Charles W. Treadwell. *Elder*—D. M. Curtis.

11. *Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—John M. Bishop and Samuel Sweezy. *Elder*—John Loughmiller, Sen.

12. *Indiana.* *Ministers*—Hugh Barr and Solomon J. Tracy. *Elder*—Samuel Phillips.

13. *Illinois.* *Ministers*—James H. Baldwin and Jeremiah Miller. *Elder*—John B. Hall.

14. *Peoria.* *Ministers*—William Johns and George C. Curtis. *Elder*—Amos Seward.

15. *Missouri.* *Ministers*—Benjamin Graves and S. Storrs Howe. *Elder*—Dyer Loomis.

16. *Virginia.* *Ministers*—Edmund Wright and Elihu P. Marvin. *Elder*—William C. Van Horn.

17. *Kentucky.* *Ministers*—Augustine Bardwell and David H. Riddle, D. D. *Elder*—J. Marshall Paul, M. D.

18. *Tennessee.* *Ministers*—Alfred H. Dashiell and Clement E. Babb. *Elder*—Thurston Wood.

19. *West Tennessee.* *Ministers*—David B. Coe and Addison K. Strong. *Elder*—Milton A. Kinney.

20. *Mississippi.* *Ministers*—Thomas H. Skinner, Jr., and Alanson Scofield. *Elder*—Henry Reed.

A communication was received from the pastor of the Universalist Society of Utica, offering the use of their place of worship on Sabbath next, in the P. M. It was referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

An invitation was received from N. D. Benedict, M. D., the superintendent of the New York State Lunatic Asylum, to visit that institution, any day during the sessions of the Assembly, from 2 to 4 o'clock P. M.

The invitation was accepted, with thanks, and the Assembly resolved to visit the institution to-morrow, at 2 o'clock P. M.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made a report, which was adopted,

recommending the following supplies for the pulpits of this city and vicinity on the ensuing Lord's day, viz.:—

First Presbyterian Church—Rev. Timothy Woodbridge, D. D., Rev. Jonathan B. Condit, D. D., and Rev. Joel Parker, D. D.

Dutch Reformed Church—Rev. David H. Riddle, D. D., in the evening.

Westminster Church—Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D., and Rev. James W. McLane.

Broad Street Baptist Church—Rev. David B. Coe, Rev. Charles C. Carr, and Rev. Edmund H. Cumpston.

Bleecker Street Baptist Church—Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. Samuel M. Hopkins, and Rev. Edmund Wright.

Bleecker Street Methodist Church—Rev. George Chandler, Rev. Lewis H. Loss, and Rev. Frederick A. Thompson.

State Street Methodist Church—Rev. Joseph G. Wilson, Rev. William W. Newell, and Rev. George D. Young.

Clinton—Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D.

New York Mills, Methodist—Rev. James H. Johnston.

Presbyterian Church of Rome—Rev. Albert Barnes. [12]

Chapel of the Lunatic Asylum—Rev. Dennis Platt.

Universalist Society at Mechanics' Hall—Rev. George C. Curtis.

They also recommended, that a prayer-meeting be held in this place every morning, commencing at ¼ before 6 o'clock, to continue one hour.

Also, that the sacrament of the Lord's Supper be administered on Thursday next, at 3 o'clock P. M.

A report was received from the Rev. Edward McMillan, Delegate to the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, which was read, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The order of the day, viz.: the reception of moneys for the Contingent and Commissioners' Funds of the Assembly, was taken up.

A discussion ensued on the proper mode of division and distribution. Before the discussion closed, the Assembly adjourned to meet in the Bleecker Street Baptist church, to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

At 7½ o'clock P. M., the annual sermon on Home Missions was preached by the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, on Church Extension, from Isa. liv. 2, 3: "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitation; spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; for thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited."

Saturday, May 17th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met in the Bleecker Street Baptist church, and was opened with prayer.

Half an hour was occupied in devotional exercises; during which the recent death of Elder Moses Forbes, appointed a Commissioner from the Presbytery of St. Louis, was announced by his colleague, the Rev. Edmund Wright.

The Roll was called.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners presented their credentials and their names were placed on the Roll of the Assembly, viz.:—

Rev. Octavius Fitch, from the Presbytery of Pennsylvania.

Rev. Henry Calhoun, " " Pataskala.

Rev. Samuel Sawyer, from the Presbytery of Holston.
Elder John E. Dutton, " " Oswego.
Rev. James H. Newton, " " Maumee.

The Presbyteries were called. and their Narratives of the State of Religion, and Statistical Reports, were received, and put into the hands of the Stated Clerk.

The Records and the Statistical Reports of the Synods were called for; and, some delinquency having been found in the premises, it was *Resolved*, That it be enjoined on the several Synods to be careful hereafter in sending up their Statistical Reports, as well as their Records.

An invitation was received from Mr. P. Churchill, agent, to visit the [13] Utica Globe Mills in this vicinity. The invitation was accepted, and the thanks of the Assembly were tendered to Mr. Churchill.

The Records of the Synod of Missouri not having been forwarded to the Assembly, the Committee appointed to examine them was discharged.

A communication from Mr. James H. Robinson, of the Presbytery of Fort Wayne, was received, and referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church presented a report, which was adopted, recommending that the Synod of Indiana, at their own request, be divided in the following manner:—

"*Resolved*, That the Presbyteries of Crawfordsville, Logansport, and Fort Wayne, be detached from the Synod of Indiana, and constituted a Synod to be called the Synod of Wabash; that they hold their first meeting at Fort Wayne, on the second Thursday of September next, at 11 o'clock A. M.; and that the Rev. Charles White, D. D., or, in case of his absence, the senior minister present, preach the opening sermon, and preside until a new Moderator be chosen; and that the Synod meet afterwards on their own adjournment."

The same Committee also reported paper No. 1, on "*Church Extension*," and No. 2, on "*Collections for Benevolent Objects;*" recommending that these papers be referred to a Committee to consist of one member from each Synod, to report to the Assembly as early as possible.

The report and recommendation of the Committee were adopted; and the papers were referred to the following *Committee*, viz.:—

Ministers—James H. Johnston, Timothy Woodbridge, D. D., Samuel Sweezy, Thomas K. Fessenden, M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., David B. Coe, Edmund F. Dickinson, Augustine Bardwell, Thornton A. Mills, S. Storrs Howe, Edmund Wright, Edward H. Cumpston, Samuel Sawyer, Archer C. Dickerson, and Alfred H. Dashiell; with the *Elders*—J. Marshall Paul, M. D., Dyer Loomis, Eurotas P. Hastings, and William H. Brown.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures made the following report, which was accepted, viz.:—

"The Committee on Bills and Overtures report Overture No. 1, memorials, &c., on the subject of Slavery; one from the Presbytery of Grand River, and one from the Presbytery of Chicago; and, as connected with the same general subject, a resolution of the Presbytery of Belvidere; a letter from the Western Presbyterian church of Palmyra, with questions touching the fugitive slave law; and another from the church in Trumansburgh, N. Y., on the subject of the Colonization Society. The memorials are few in number, (four in all,) kind in spirit, decorous in matter, and no doubt conscientious in origin. The Committee have carefully read and considered these documents, and unanimously and cordially agree to the following result: That

the Assembly have reason to be thankful to Divine Providence for the wisdom and prudence vouchsafed to the last Assembly, in coming to conclusions on this vexed question, which have so generally met with the acquiescence of the Church at this crisis; and that it seems obviously our privilege and duty, at the present session, to leave the whole subject as it was placed by that action, and to devote our time to other subjects which demand attention; [14] always praying, that God will hasten on the day of universal freedom throughout our land and the world."

A motion was made that the report be adopted.

The reading of the memorials was called for; and the memorials from the Presbyteries of Chicago, Salem, Grand River, Fort Wayne, and Belvidere, and the letters from the churches of Trumansburgh and the Western church of Palmyra were accordingly read.

The discussion proceeded until the hour of adjournment, when, without taking the question, the Assembly adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 19th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Half an hour was occupied in devotional exercises; after which the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the last session, viz., the subject of mileage, and the distribution of the Commissioners' Fund, was resumed—the question being on the motion of Rev. T. A. Mills, to refer the whole subject to a Committee to report a plan which shall include the actual expenses as well as the distances travelled by Commissioners.

After some discussion, the matter was postponed, for the present, to hear the report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church, in reference to the request of the Presbytery of Milwaukie to be attached to the Synod of Peoria.

The Committee reported, recommending that the request of the Presbytery of Milwaukie be granted, and that their Commissioners be admitted to seats in the Assembly.

A motion was made that the report be adopted.

A discussion ensued, during which it was agreed to allow the Rev. William H. Spencer, the Delegate from the Presbytery of Milwaukie, to present a statement on the subject.

The Assembly agreed to adjourn to-morrow P. M. at 4½ o'clock, to give an opportunity for holding a meeting in behalf of the American Sunday-School Union.

Before the question in relation to the Presbytery of Milwaukie was taken, the Assembly adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 19th, 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A communication was received from Mr. Thomas R. Walker, president of the Utica Cemetery Association, inviting the members of the Assembly to visit their grounds at any time during their stay in the city.

The invitation was accepted, and the thanks of the Assembly were tendered in return. [15]

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 2, from the

Synod of West Pennsylvania, "On Stated Supplies and Vacant Congregations," in the form following:

"When a minister is at the same time pastor of one church, and acts as the stated supply of another church, has each of said churches a right to be represented by its own elder, at the same meeting of Presbytery or Synod? Or does this case come under the Rule, Chap. X., sect. 4, p. 368, of Form of Government?" they recommend that the following answer be returned, viz.: "That churches, having stated supplies only, are not such churches as are contemplated in the article referred to, and have a right of representation according to the principles of the Form of Government, Chap. X., sec. 5.

The report was adopted.

Also, Overture No. 3, from the Synod of New York and New Jersey, and from the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, "On Church Covenants," requesting the Assembly to take order in reference to some uniform mode and formula of receiving members into our churches; with a recommendation of the following answer:—

"That it is inexpedient for the Assembly to attempt such a measure, however desirable it is to have uniformity; but that it more properly belongs to the Presbyteries and Synods."

The report was adopted.

The order of the day was suspended for the present, and the unfinished business of the morning, viz., the consideration of the application of the Presbytery of Milwaukie, was resumed; the question being on the adoption of the report of the Committee.

Rev. William H. Spencer, the Delegate from the Presbytery of Milwaukie, was heard in support of the application.

After a long discussion, the question was put, and the report of the Committee was adopted. The Presbytery was attached to the Synod of Peoria, and the Rev. William H. Spencer, the Delegate, was enrolled as a member of the Assembly.

The Assembly proceeded to hear the Delegates from Corresponding Bodies.

The Rev. Francis Horton, Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, and the Rev. Isaac Willey, Delegate from the General Association of New Hampshire, were heard in such statements as they desired to make in reference to the bodies which they represented.

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M., to hear the other Delegates from Corresponding Bodies; and immediately after, to hear the agents of benevolent societies.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 20th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. Half an hour was employed in devotional exercises.

The calling of the Roll was hereafter dispensed with. The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [16]

The Rev. Daniel Russell, a Commissioner from the Presbytery of Angelica, appeared, and his name was placed on the Roll of the Assembly.

A communication from Mr. Theodore Dwight, of New York City, in reference to a proceeding of the Synod of New York and New Jersey, was received, and referred to a special Committee, consisting of Rev. James W. McLane, Rev. Franklin A. Spencer, and Elder William H. Brown.

A printed pamphlet, on the subject of "Trustees, sessions, voting, and

church order," was communicated through the Moderator, and referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The first order of the day, viz.: nomination of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, was postponed; and the Assembly proceeded to hear further statements from the Delegates of Corresponding Bodies.

The Rev. Lorenzo Carey, and the Rev. Francis Horton, Delegates from the General Association of Massachusetts; Rev. Uriah Balkam, from the General Conference of Maine; Rev. Cyrus B. Drake, from the General Convention of Vermont; the Rev. John Gridley, from the Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin; and the Rev. Dirck C. Lansing, D. D., from the General Association of New York; made interesting communications on the state of religion, education, and temperance, within their respective bounds.

Written communications, on the same subject, were also received from the Rev. John G. Morris, D. D., Delegate from the Evangelical Synod of the Lutheran Church, in the United States, and from the Rev. N. A. Keyes, Delegate from the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, containing apologies for their absence, and interesting statements in respect to their particular communions. These communications, so far as written, were put into the hands of the Committee on the Narrative.

The Moderator then, in the name of the Assembly, made an appropriate address to the Delegates of Corresponding Bodies, expressing the continuance of the most friendly feelings of the General Assembly towards the various ecclesiastical bodies which have been here represented.

A communication was received from Messrs. Mark H. Newman & Co., publishers of the Assembly's Hymn Book, directing attention to some new editions of the Hymn Book, together with a donation of several copies of the Confession of Faith, Shorter Catechism, Doddridge's Rise and Progress and Baxter's Call, in a cheap form, for general circulation, which were accepted with thanks.

The Rev. John Patton, corresponding secretary of the Philadelphia Education Society, was then heard in an address in behalf of the cause of education. After which the Assembly adjourned, to meet at 2 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 20th, 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. Daniel G. Sprague, of the Presbytery of Newark, and Mr. John Foote, Elder from the Presbytery of Chenango, appeared as Commissioners, and their names were placed on the Roll of the Assembly. [17]

Rev. Patterson Fletcher offered resolutions on the subject of reporting the number of candidates for the ministry; which were referred to the Committee on Church Extension.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church made a report in reference to memorials from the Synods of Ohio, Western Reserve, and Cincinnati, on the subject of the boundaries of those Synods. And, as there appears to be a full concurrence between them as to what is desirable, the Committee recommended the adoption of the following resolutions:—

1. That the division line, between the Synods of Western Reserve and Cincinnati, be the southern line of the Western Reserve, extended westward to the State line of Indiana.

2. That the division line between the Synods of Ohio and Cincinnati be as follows: Beginning at the northwest corner of Wyandot county,

Ohio; thence southwardly with the western lines of Wyandot, Marion, Union, Madison, Pickaway, Ross, Pike, and Scotio counties, to the Ohio River.

The report was adopted.

They also reported in reference to an application of the Presbytery of Des Moines for a division of said Presbytery, and the erection of a new Synod, as follows:—

That, in their estimation, the way is not fully prepared for the formation of a new Synod; inasmuch as neither the Presbytery of Minnesota, nor the Synods of Illinois and Peoria, have been consulted on the subject: also, that the small number of members which would compose the Synod renders it a subject of doubtful expediency for the present year.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that the papers be returned to the Presbytery of Des Moines, that they may, if they see fit, apply to the Synod of Illinois for an orderly division of their Presbytery, and prepare the way for the erection of a new Synod the coming year.

This report also was adopted.

The Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Treasurer and Stated Clerk reported, that they had examined the accounts which have been presented, and find them accurate.

By the accounts presented, there has been received during the past year,

For the Commissioners' Fund	$473.19
For the Contingent Fund	496.20
Amounting to	969.39
Of which there has been expended for various purposes .	893.39
Leaving a balance on hand of	$76.00

$21.50 of which is in the hands of the Stated Clerk, and $54.50 in the hands of the Treasurer.

It further appears by these accounts, that there is a balance due the estate of William Osborn, for printing, of $67.12; which, deducted from the surplus in the hands of the Clerk and Treasurer, would leave an actual balance of $8.88.

The report was adopted. [18]

Nominations were then made of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies. And the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow at 2 o'clock P. M.

The unfinished business of Saturday, viz., the consideration of the report on the subject of Slavery, was resumed, the question being on the adoption of the report of the Committee.

The discussion was after a while suspended, to receive a communication from the Hon. William J. Bacon, chairman of a committee of the Common Council of this city, in reference to the approaching visit of the President of the United States.

Whereupon it was *Resolved*, That the Rev. Alanson Scofield, Hon. William Strong, and Messrs. John L. Ketcham, Jacob Gideon, and Elisha Taylor, be a Committee to report what action should be taken by the Assembly in reference to that event.

The discussion was resumed. Rev. Dennis Platt moved to amend, by adding:

"The Assembly are aware, that a new phase of this subject has been presented by a recent enactment of Congress, commonly known as the 'Fugitive Slave Law.' But we suppose that the principles already settled will be a sufficient guide to a sincere and intelligent inquirer after truth and duty. While all active resistance to legal authority is to be avoided, (except in

cases which justify a bloody revolution,) it is the right and duty of all citizens to speak and vote according to their honest convictions in favor of good laws, and for the repeal of those which are evil.

"And no human enactment can make it our duty to refrain from acts of charity towards the suffering, or to engage in the work of sending back to a hopeless bondage persons who are innocent of crime, and who have according to the law of nature already achieved their freedom."

At 4½ o'clock, agreeably to previous arrangements, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 21st, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was employed in devotional exercises. The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. Enoch Kingsbury, from the Presbytery of Wabash, and Elder John Emerson, from the Presbytery of Bath, appeared as Commissioners, and their names were placed on the Roll of the Assembly.

The Committee, appointed to report in reference to the visit of the President of the United States, made a report, recommending that a vote of thanks be tendered to the Common Council of this city for their expression of courtesy to this Assembly; and that the Assembly, on being notified of the arrival of this distinguished visitor, with the intention to remain long enough to afford an opportunity so to do, will adjourn, or take a recess, that the members who wish may meet and interchange civilities with him and the members of the Cabinet who may accompany him.

The report was adopted. [19]

An application from the Rev. Mr. Bogue, to be heard on behalf of the American Society for Meliorating the Condition of the Jews, was presented, and the consideration thereof postponed for the present.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz., the discussion of Rev. Dennis Platt's amendment to the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on the subject of Slavery, was resumed.

Mr. Platt had leave of the Assembly to amend his motion so as to read as follows:—

"In regard to the new phase of this subject presented during the last year, and to questions growing out of it, there seems to be no occasion for the Assembly to assert any new principle; since it is an established doctrine of our Church and of Protestant Christendom, that whilst obedience to law is a Christian duty, in all but extreme cases, yet no human enactments can bind any man to do that which he knows to be in conflict with the law of God."

The Rev. Archer C. Dickerson moved to amend by striking out all after the words "new principle."

The Rev. Lemuel Grosvenor moved to postpone the question before the house, to take up a substitute.

The Rev. Elihu P. Marvin moved the previous question, which was ordered by the Assembly.

The previous question was then put. The amendments were successively rejected, and the original report of the Committee was adopted.

After which the Assembly adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 21st, 2 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

It was made the order of the day for Friday, at 10 o'clock A. M., to hear the reports of the Committees appointed to examine Synodical Records.

The Assembly then proceeded to the order of the day, the election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies; and the Rev. John M. Bishop, and J. Marshall Paul, M. D., were appointed a *Committee to collect* and count the votes.

The Rev. Mr. Bogue was permitted to address the Assembly, in behalf of the American Society for Meliorating the Condition of the Jews.

Several copies of a sermon on "Presbytery" by the Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, of Cincinnati, were received for the use of the members of the Assembly, and the thanks of the Assembly were tendered to the author for his donation.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported the following as the order of exercises at the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, to-morrow, at 3 o'clock, P. M., and the report was adopted:—

Reading the Scriptures and Hymn, by the Moderator.

Introductory Remarks, by the Rev. David H. Riddle, D. D.

Distribution of the Bread, by the Rev. Francis Horton. [20]

Distribution of the Cup, by the Rev. John Gridley.

Concluding Remarks, by the Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church made a report in reference to letters of Mr. James H. Robinson, concerning the Presbyterian church of Fort Wayne, recommending that the subject be dismissed, and the letters be returned to the persons to whom they are addressed.

The report was adopted.

The unfinished business of Monday, viz., the subject of mileage, was resumed;—the question being on the motion of the Rev. Thornton A. Mills to refer the subject to a special Committee.

The motion was carried, and the whole subject was referred to a Committee, consisting of the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, and the Hon. Messrs. Augustus P. Hascall, and Elijah Rhoades.

The Rev. Edmund F. Dickinson offered a resolution, proposing to have statistical tables prepared of Slavery as it exists in our Southern churches.

Rev. Gideon S. White moved an amendment, to have similar tables prepared concerning hired servants in the North.

After some discussion, the resolution and amendment were, on leave, withdrawn.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Albany made a report, and, on their recommendation, the Records were approved, with the following exceptions:—

1. On page 224, entries are made in pencil marks. 2. On page 227, is found an order for religious exercises for the afternoon and evening, which the records show were not performed until the afternoon and evening of the next day, without any record of the change.

The thanks of the Assembly were tendered to the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, for his sermon on Home Missions, delivered during the present sessions of the Assembly, and a copy thereof was requested for publication.

The Assembly then adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 22d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The usual time was employed in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No 4, in these

words: "May a session of a church invite a minister of the Gospel belonging to the same Presbytery or Synod to which the church belongs, to sit as a Corresponding Member of said session; and, when so invited, may such minister, at the request of an accused brother, be assigned as counsel for the accused?"

The Committee recommended that both questions be answered in the negative; and the report was adopted.

Also, Overture No. 5, from the Presbytery of Greencastle, in these words, viz.: "*Whereas* it is very desirable that the Minutes of the General Assembly be extensively circulated; and *whereas* many of our ministers, [21] and more of our churches, never obtain them; therefore, *Resolved*, That the General Assembly be requested to adopt some measure to extend their circulation."

The Committee report, that the existing regulations of the Assembly are designed to supply all who pay the proper amount into the Contingent Fund, at the rate of 25 cents per copy; and this seems to be as economical and wise a plan as could be designed. The report was adopted.

The Rev. John C. Brigham, D. D., Corresponding Secretary, and the Rev. Samuel H. Cox., D. D., were permitted to address the Assembly in behalf of the American Bible Society. After which the following resolutions were adopted:—

"*Resolved*, That the American Bible Society, from the catholicity of its principles, the extent of its operations, and the indispensable need of the Book which it circulates to all men, has not only the confidence and good wishes of the General Assembly, but its prayers that prosperity and increasing usefulness may continue to attend the labors of that national institution.

"*Resolved*, That the manner in which the Society carries on its operations, through local auxiliaries, renders it peculiarly important that pastors and other friends of the Bible give attention to the management of those auxiliaries, and see that they discharge their duties with punctuality and energy."

The Rev. J. B. Pinney was also heard in behalf of the American Colonization Society.

The Committee, to whom was referred a communication from Mr. Theodore Dwight, of New York, reported, that the subject of the communication pertains to matters not under the jurisdiction of the General Assembly; and they therefore recommended, that the paper be returned to Mr. Dwight.

The report was adopted.

Invitations were received from the directors of the Utica Orphan Asylum, and from the trustees of the Utica Steam Cotton Mills, to visit these establishments, at the convenience of the Assembly.

The invitations were accepted, and a vote of thanks was passed.

The Committee appointed to collect and count the votes, reported that the following persons had been duly elected Delegates to Corresponding Bodies; to the

General Association of Connecticut—Rev. Ransom Hawley, Rev. Benjamin W. Chidlaw, and Rev. Thomas K. Fessenden.

General Association of Massachusetts—Rev. Ransom Hawley and Rev. Benjamin W Chidlaw, principals; and Rev. Thomas K. Fessenden, alternate.

General Association of New Hampshire—Rev. William E. Knox, principal; Rev. David B. Coe, alternate.

General Conference of Maine—Rev. Robert R. Kellogg, principal; and Rev. Baruch B. Beckwith, alternate.

General Convention of Vermont—Rev. Charles Doolittle, principal; and Rev. F. Harmon, alternate.

General Association of Rhode Island—Rev. William W. Newell, principal; Rev. Amos E. Lawrence, alternate. [22]

Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin—Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., and Rev. William H. Spencer, principals; Rev. Harvey Curtis, alternate.

General Synod of Lutheran Church in the United States—Rev. David H. Riddle, D. D., principal; and Rev. William R. De Witt, D. D., alternate.

General Synod of the German Reformed Church—Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D., principal; and Rev. Albert Barnes, alternate.

General Association of the State of New York—Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., principal; and Rev. Franklin A. Spencer, alternate.

General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church—Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, principal; and Rev. Archer C. Dickerson, alternate.

The Committee on Church Extension made a report, which was accepted, and 250 copies of it ordered to be printed, for the use of the members.

The consideration of the report was made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 9½ o'clock A. M.

The Rev. Jeremiah Miller offered a resolution on the subject of the Sabbath, which was under consideration, when the Assembly adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 22d, 2 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church made a report on the subject of Correspondence with the General Association of New York, as follows:—

"That, from the position in which that body, and a large portion of the Presbyterian Church are placed, in respect to each other, it is natural that a spirit of rivalry should exist between them; and that this should engender a spirit of proselytism, which appears to have been manifested, in a degree, in some of the past action of the Association, which we hope will not be persisted in on their part, and which we trust will never characterize the action of our Church. We are brethren of the same family, have the same Lord, the same faith, the same baptism, and the same great ends in view, and should live together in the strictest bonds of holy fellowship and union; striving together for the advancement of the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Whether an individual church chooses to administer the discipline in the Presbyterian or Congregational way, is comparatively a matter of minor concern. Let each be persuaded in his own mind, and not interfere with the rights of his brother.

"We recommend that the correspondence be continued, and hope that it may be so conducted as to prove mutually satisfactory, and promotive of the interests of the kingdom of our dear Redeemer."

The report was adopted.

A communication was received from Mr. D. D. T. Davie, a daguerreotypist of Utica, proposing, with their consent, to daguerreotype the Assembly, [23] in groups of twenty or thirty individuals; which was referred to a Committee, consisting of Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., J. Marshall Paul, M. D., and the Hon. Elijah Rhoades.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the consideration of Mr. Miller's resolutions on the *Sabbath*, was resumed.

The resolutions were, after some discussion, referred for revision to a *Committee*, consisting of the Rev. Jeremiah Miller, Rev. David H. Riddle, D. D., and J. Marshall Paul, M. D.

The seventeenth of the "Rules for Judicatories," concerning the "Previous Question," was referred to a Committee, consisting of the Hon. William Strong, Mr. Abraham B. Conger, and Mr. William H. Brown, to explain its use and proper mode of application.

Resolved, That it be recommended to all our churches to observe the first Monday in January next, as a day of fasting and prayer, for the conversion of the world.

The Assembly agreed to hear reports of the state of the Theological Seminaries within our bounds, immediately after the administration of the Lord's Supper.

At 3 o'clock, the Assembly, agreeably to previous order, united with each other, and with such Christian brethren and sisters as chose to participate with them, in the celebration of the Lord's Supper, when the several parts of the service were performed as previously appointed.

The Assembly proceeded to hear statements in relation to the Theological Seminaries within their bounds. Rev. George F. Wiswell, agent, made a brief statement in reference to the Union Seminary, in the city of New York; Rev. Professor Samuel M. Hopkins, in reference to the Auburn Theological Seminary; Rev. Eleroy Curtis, in reference to the Theological Department of Western Reserve College; the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, in reference to Lane Seminary; and the Rev. Gideon S. White, in reference to the Seminary at Maryville, Tennessee.

The Assembly agreed to hear the Rev. Theron Baldwin, secretary of the Society for Collegiate and Theological Education at the West, to-morrow, at 10½ o'clock A. M.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises presented a report, which was adopted, recommending the following supplies for the pulpits of the city and neighborhood on the ensuing Sabbath:—

First Presbyterian Church—Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., and the Moderator.

Bleecker Street Baptist Church—Rev. Messrs. Charles Hawley, Clement E. Babb, and Henry L. Hitchcock.

Bleecker Street Methodist Church—Rev. Messrs. George C. Curtis, E. Perkins Pratt, and James Knox.

Reformed Dutch Church—Rev. Jonathan B. Condit, D. D.

Broad Street Baptist Church—Rev. Messrs. Thornton A. Mills, Thomas H. Skinner, Jr., and James W. McLane.

Rome—Rev. David H. Riddle, D. D.

The report was accepted.

After which the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M. Concluded with prayer. [24]

Friday, May 23d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The usual time was employed in devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave of absence had

been given to the Rev. Messrs. Charles Doolittle, Lemuel Grosvenor, and Joseph C. Whitney; and to Messrs. H. H. Everest, Ebenezer B. Jones, Henry Stephens, John Foote, William R. Shepherd, Benjamin Dunning, Jonathan Provost, Daniel Bushnell, John Heald, and Aaron C. Potwin.

The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of Mileage, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

"The Commissioners' Fund is distributed at the present time in the following manner: The money contributed for the General Fund is paid into the hands of the Committee on Mileage, and distributed to such Commissioners as claim it, (whose Presbyteries have contributed any thing to the fund, and who have not otherwise been paid,) according to the number of miles each has travelled to the place of meeting.

"This mode of distribution appears to be as simple and equitable as any that can be adopted; and the Committee recommend that it remain unchanged.

"Our Form of Government, Chap. XXII., sec. 3, makes it proper for each Presbytery to pay its own Commissioners; consequently, if any Presbytery shall choose to do so, the Assembly cannot require them to contribute to the General Fund; but it is most earnestly recommended to the older and abler Presbyteries, in view of the wide extent of our Church, and the great importance of our rising Presbyteries being represented in the meetings of the Assembly, if they shall still choose to exercise their right to pay their own Commissioners in full, that they be particular in making additional collections for the General Fund, so that the younger and feebler Presbyteries may be fully represented. And it is hereby made the duty of the Stated Clerk to give due notice of this recommendation previous to the meeting of the General Assembly."

It was moved that the Presbyteries, in their annual report to the Assembly, state whether they pay their own Commissioners, and what additional amount they contribute to the common fund.

After some discussion, the subject was referred to the Committee which had just reported on the subject of Mileage.

The Judicial Committee presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:—

"The Judicial Committee congratulate the General Assembly on the peaceful and happy relations of our ecclesiastical courts and the manifest disposition to terminate personal difficulties, without extended litigation.

"A single paper only has been referred to your Committee; and even this will allow no action by the General Assembly at its present sessions.

"The paper alluded to is a complaint preferred by Mr. Franklin Knox against the Synod of Missouri, for its proceedings in the trial of an appeal of William G. Webb from the decision of the Presbytery of St. Louis. The grounds of the complaint are alleged to be observable in the Synodical Records touching the case. [25]

"These records have not been sent up to the Assembly; consequently, the complaint cannot be taken up and intelligently issued at the present time.

"The Judicial Committee recommend, therefore, that the paper be returned to Mr. Knox, with the advice, that the difficulty be adjusted in some other way, if possible; but, if this be impracticable, that the complaint be sent up to the next General Assembly, accompanied by the necessary documentary evidence in the case."

The Rev. Theron Baldwin was heard in a short address in behalf of the Society for Collegiate and Theological Education in the West. After which the following resolution was adopted:—

"*Resolved*, That the Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education at the West, by aiding in the establishment of the higher institutions of learning under Christian influence, on our great home-missionary field, is directly and efficiently co-operating with other agencies in securing the evangelization of our country; and that, by reason of the work in which they are engaged, its past success, and its prospective usefulness, it deserves the sympathy and aid of our churches, whose prosperity has ever been closely identified with the spread of intelligence, and whose power for good, under God, resides pre-eminently in an educated and evangelical ministry."

The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of the erection of Presbyteries at missionary stations in foreign lands, made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:—

"There are about thirty missionaries under the care of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, who belong to various Presbyteries embraced in this General Assembly. In the judgment of your Committee, the propagation of vital religion is the first object of missionary labor: and no great interest connected with this end ought to be jeoparded by premature action in giving shape to our ecclesiastical arrangements in the missionary stations among the heathen. Still it is obvious that the number of our missionaries is such, and so many, in some instances, are laboring in the same locality, as to render it proper to inquire whether they may not, with great advantage, be formed into Presbyteries, by means of which we may propagate the policy as well as the doctrines of our Church.

"The introduction of such a change is a work of some delicacy; and, in the judgment of your Committee, demands time for a mature deliberation, and a full interchange of sentiment with the parties concerned in it. The Prudential Committee, we learn, have left the management of ecclesiastical affairs to the missionaries themselves. So long as the Gospel is preached, souls converted, the heathen instructed, and those great principles of religious liberty maintained which are secured by ministerial parity, the object of the Board is attained.

"Yet there are some missionary stations in which the number of laborers is small, and the Congregational and Presbyterian elements so equally divided, that, if either form of government were insisted on, the harmony of the mission might be marred. In cases of this sort, it is highly probable that every real interest of the mission would be promoted by delay. Information in regard to the proportion of Presbyterian ministers in each [26] locality where such a mixture occurs, and in respect to the sentiments and wishes of our brethren, seems to be indispensable to a wise and judicious action.

"The Committee recommend, therefore, that a *Committee* of three ministers be appointed *to confer with the Prudential Committee*, and to correspond with those members of our Presbyteries who are in the employment of the American Board, and to submit to the next Assembly a report, embodying such information as may enable them to judge wisely of the whole matter."

The Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D., and Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., were appointed a *Committee of Correspondence* on the above subject.

It was *ordered*, that all moneys for the Commissioners' Fund be paid to the Committee on Mileage previous to 6 o'clock this afternoon; and that all claims on the Fund be presented by the Commissioners before to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly then took up the report on Church Extension. A motion

was made to adopt the report. After some discussion, the Assembly adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 23d, 2 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The reports of Committees appointed to examine Synodical Records were received; and, on their recommendation, the Records of the following Synods were approved, as far as written, viz.: West Tennessee, Utica, New York and New Jersey, Cincinnati, Western Reserve, Ohio, Genesee, Kentucky, Geneva, Indiana, Peoria, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Michigan.

The Records of the Synods of Mississippi, Tennessee, and Illinois not being present, the Committees appointed to examine them were discharged. The Records of the Synod of West Pennsylvania were approved, with directions that the Stated Clerk be requested to number the pages of the Records.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the report of the Committee on Church Extension, was resumed.

The Rev. Daniel Russell moved so to amend and modify the report, as to extend the benefits proposed to the whole Presbyterian Church. The motion was postponed.

The Rev. Clement E. Babb moved to amend, by striking out all after the preamble, and to introduce a substitute.

The subject was discussed until the hour of adjournment, when, without taking the question, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [27]

Saturday, May 24th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. After the usual time employed in devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. John Marsh, secretary, was then heard in an address in behalf of the American Temperance Union.

After which, the following resolutions were adopted:—

"*Whereas*, In the good providence of God, a great and benign change has been wrought by the Temperance Reform, in its distinctive character, in the drinking usages of the people of the United States, and of other countries, deeply affecting the great interests of religion and humanity; and *whereas*, notwithstanding all that has been accomplished, there is still in all our cities, and on all our thoroughfares, a vast amount of intemperance, especially among our young men and our floating population, causing an alarming increase of crime, pauperism, desecration of the Sabbath, and contempt of God; therefore,

Resolved, That the General Assembly would again express its deep sense of the necessity of a continued and more vigorous support of the Temperance enterprise; and they would enjoin upon all Presbyteries, ministers, churches, Sunday-school teachers, to be active and vigilant in this great work; instead of tardily following, ever taking the lead in it, as God's great reforming power in the earth; and by personal example, by family and social and official influence, by the diffusion of wise Temperance publications, by the encouraging and upholding of legislatures and magistrates in the enactment and execution of efficient laws for the suppression of the

traffic, to do what in them lies, in their day and generation, to stay the further desolations of intemperance, and thus prepare the way of the Lord among all people."

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been given to the Rev. Messrs. Charles W. Treadwell, Charles C. Carr, Albert H. Gaston, Jonathan B. Condit, D. D., Burtis C. Megie, George Chandler, James H. Baldwin, and Lewis H. Loss; also, to Messrs. Elijah Rhoades, Sylvester Willard, Augustus P. Hascall, Moses Bristol, Samuel Phillips, John C. Hines, John Taylor, John Clouds, William B. Cory, and Thurston Wood.

The Committee, to whom was referred the interpretation of the 17th Rule, presented a report, and, on their recommendation, the 13th and 17th Rules were amended, so as to read as follows:—

"The previous question shall be put in this form: Shall the main question be now put? It shall only be admitted when demanded by a majority of the members present; and its effect shall be to put an end to all debate, and bring the body to a direct vote,—first, upon a motion to commit the subject under consideration, (if such motion shall have been made;) secondly, (if the motion to commit does not prevail,) upon pending amendments; and, lastly, upon the main question. The call for the previous question shall not be debatable.

"The 13th Rule shall be amended by striking out the words, 'or the previous question.'" [28]

The Committee, to whom were referred the resolutions on the subject of the Sabbath, reported the following resolutions, which were adopted:—

"*Resolved*, 1. That this Assembly continues to regard the holy Sabbath as an institution of God, universally and perpetually binding upon man, and as of primary and indispensable importance to all the interests of the Church, the country, and the world.

"*Resolved*, 2. That we view with great pleasure any intimations of an increasingly healthful sentiment in regard to the Sabbath in our country, especially in public corporations; and exceedingly deplore the unhappy example of its desecration in high places.

"*Resolved*, 3. That in this age of growing internal improvements and consequent temptations and facilities for transgression, and when such large accessions are constantly making to our population, with loose and unscriptural views of the Sabbath, it is more than ever incumbent on all Christians, by their influence, example, and efforts, to honor and conserve this sacred institution."

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz., the subject of Church Extension, was resumed; the question being on the amendment, offered by the Rev. Clement E. Babb, to the report of the Committee.

Some progress having been made in the discussion, it was suspended, and the Rev. Francis Horton, Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, after a short address, to which the Moderator responded, took his leave.

The discussion was resumed, and continued until the hour of adjournment, when, without taking the question, the Assembly adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 26th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. After the usual time had been occupied in devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Rev. Thomas K. Fessenden having declined the appointment of Delegate to Connecticut and Massachusetts, the Rev. S. Storrs Howe was elected in his place.

The Committee on Mileage made a report, which was adopted; and the Committee (in the absence of the Treasurer) were directed to pay the Commissioners, according to their proportion of the fund, at the rate of 3.7329 cents per mile.

The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of reporting the Collections for the Commissioners' Fund, made the following report, which was adopted:—

"*Resolved*, That the Presbyteries be required to report in full the sums paid by their respective churches for the payment of Commissioners to the General Assembly; and that the Stated Clerk be directed to state the portion of the whole retained by the Presbyteries for the payment of their own Commissioners, and that which passed into the hands of the Treasurer for the General Commissioners' Fund of the Assembly." [29]

The unfinished business of Saturday, viz., the subject of Church Extension, was resumed; the question being on the amendment of the Rev. Clement E. Babb to the report of the Committee.

The Rev. Joseph G. Wilson moved, that the whole subject of Church Extension, with the various reports and amendments, be referred to a special Committee, for the purpose of making a report to the next Assembly.

The Rev. Alanson Scofield moved to postpone Mr. Wilson's motion, in order to take up the following substitute:—

"*Resolved*, That the Presbyteries be overtured on the whole subject of Church Extension, that they may, if they choose, memorialize the next General Assembly."

Rev. James W. McLane moved the previous question, which was ordered by the Assembly.

The motion of the Rev. Joseph G. Wilson, to refer the whole subject to a special Committee, was then carried; and the whole subject was accordingly referred to a special Committee, consisting of the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. Frederick A. Ross, Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., Rev. James B. Townsend, Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, and Rev. Robert W. Patterson; four of whom to form a quorum.

The Assembly then adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 26th, 2 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 5, as follows:—"May the session of a church, at the request of an accused brother, assign as his counsel a minister of the gospel belonging to the same Presbytery to which the session belongs?"

The Committee answered:—"There is no provision for such a case in our Constitution; and, though it does not appear to contravene its spirit and design, and might in special cases be allowable with advantage; yet, a strict interpretation of Chap. IV., sec. 21., of the Book of Discipline, seems to preclude the employment of any one as counsel who is not a member of the judicatory."

The report was adopted.

The Committee, to whom was referred the nomination of a preacher on

Home Missions, recommended the appointment of the Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., as principal, and Rev. George Duffield, D. D., as alternate.

Their recommendation was adopted.

"*Resolved*, That the rule in regard to the printed Minutes, adopted by the last, and several preceding Assemblies, be adopted in reference to the Minutes of this Assembly."

The bills for stationery and for printing were presented and ordered to be paid.

The following resolution was adopted:—

"*Resolved*, That this Assembly does hereby declare its undiminished [30] confidence in, and cordial sympathy with, the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, the American Home Missionary Society, and the American Tract Society, with which our Church has co-operated for so many years, in carrying forward the blessed work of the Gospel, and doing good to man; and does hereby affectionately commend them to the Presbyteries and churches connected with this Assembly."

"*Resolved*, That it be referred to a *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. James W. McLane, Messrs. Moses W. Dodd, Roe Lockwood, and Charles Starr, to take into consideration the *employment of the Press* for the promotion of the cause of Christ, by means of our denomination.

Ordered—That the salaries and travelling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks be paid.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to the citizens of Utica, and the families of different religious denominations, who have extended such kind and cordial hospitality to the Commissioners in attendance, and have contributed to make their stay in this city so peculiarly pleasant. And that it is our fervent prayer, that the blessing of God may, in connection with this meeting, and with the ordinary means of grace here enjoyed, rest upon them.

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to those railroad and steamboat companies that have offered to convey the members of this Assembly at a reduced price.

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to the Trustees of the First Presbyterian church in this city, and to the Bleecker Street Baptist church, for the accommodations extended to the Assembly during their present sessions."

The Rev. Ova P. Hoyt, Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, forwarded a written report, which was read, and his bill of travelling expenses was ordered to be paid out of any unappropriated funds.

The bill of expenses of the Rev. Conway P. Wing, as Delegate to the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, was presented, and ordered to be paid out of any unappropriated funds.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Roll was called, and none of the members were found to have absented themselves without leave.

The Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., from the Committee to prepare a Narrative, made a report, which was adopted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The thanks of the Assembly were tendered to the Moderator, for the modest, efficient, and impartial manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having

been taken for dissolving the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved; and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the Fourth Presbyterian church, in the city of Washington, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1852, at 11 o'clock A. M.

E. W. GILBERT, *Permanent Clerk.*

Utica, May, 26th, 1851.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1851.

The Committee, to whom was referred the business of preparing a Narrative of the State of Religion within the bounds of the General Assembly, respectfully report:—

The duty assigned to us is, on all accounts, difficult, and, on some accounts, not possible to be adequately performed. Had we just such narratives from all the Presbyteries as it is desirable that we should have, it would, even then, be no easy task to gather into a small space all the points of interest and importance, and so to arrange and exhibit them as to give a clear view of the actual state of things in our vast and varied field. Unhappily, however, of the one hundred and four Presbyteries in our connection, less than three fourths are heard from; and, for the most part, the reports laid upon the table of the Assembly are exceedingly meagre and unsatisfactory.

Your Committee would suggest the propriety of some action of this body, designed to secure, in future years, more perfect reports from all the inferior judicatories.

Having carefully availed ourselves of all the sources of information within our reach, we unite in making the following representations.

1. THE EXTERNAL CONDITION OF THE CHURCH.

The external condition of our Church may be regarded as generally prosperous. While, from various causes, many congregations, in almost every part of the land, are struggling to maintain an existence, and some, it is to be feared, are struggling vainly, yet, on the whole, the aspect of things is encouraging. One cannot return from a walk about Zion, having told the towers thereof, and marked well her bulwarks, and considered her palaces, without joyously feeling that she is a city that is compact together, and, under God's protection, safe from the assaults of her enemies.

The past year has evidently been a year of God's favor toward us. The ground previously possessed has been well maintained, and much new ground has been occupied. New churches have been organized, and old ones have received large accessions to their numbers. Many new houses of worship have been erected, and many old ones have been repaired and enlarged. A large amount of church debts has been cancelled, and other serious embarrassments, which are mentioned as having formerly existed, have, in various instances, been removed.

Many Presbyteries report a large increase of attendance on the ministrations of the sanctuary, and all assure us that they are living at peace among themselves, and laboring harmoniously to advance the cause of the Gospel.

Want of Ministers.

That, in the external condition of our Church, which occasions most anxiety, is the great and growing scarcity of well-qualified and faithful ministers. From every quarter in the West, Southwest, and Northwest, the complaint on this ground is urged in a manner that has deeply affected our minds. Not only is the want of ministers sorely felt on the field, so as to be the principal cause of whatever distress exists there, and of the danger that threatens the permanence of not a few churches, but there seems to be no promise nor prospect of a speedy adequate supply; nor even that the difficulty is not to become greater, rather than less. It is a most alarming fact, that, as compared with former years, the number of young men preparing for the sacred office is very small. At a time when, to meet the growing demands of our country and the world, the supply should at least be doubled, a fearful diminution of the supply seems to be inevitable.

Your Committee feel impelled to ask, if something cannot be done to remedy the evil. May not individual churches do something, by thoroughly canvassing among themselves for pious young men, endowed by nature and grace with the proper qualifications, by urging them into a course of preparation for the ministry, and by aiding them, if need be, with the means of prosecuting their studies? And may not some means be devised of revivifying or reorganizing, on some more efficient plan, our Boards of Ministerial Education? Your Committee feel that scarcely any other interest of the Church demands, at the present time, so large a share of our attention.

Theological Seminaries.

We have reason to congratulate ourselves on the present condition of our Theological Seminaries, and their thorough preparation to do the work for which they are intended. We believe that no similar institutions in the land are better furnished for the business intrusted to them. Would to God that these schools of the prophets had work to do, commensurate with their ability! We deeply feel that the members in attendance on them should be speedily doubled; and we cannot but think that, with proper effort on the part of ministers and churches, this consummation, so much to be desired, is possible.

From all that appears, your Committee are of the opinion, that our Church has never enjoyed a higher degree of favor with the community at large than she does at the present moment, and that she was never in circumstances more favorable for exerting a wide and powerful influence for God.

2. THE INTERNAL CONDITION OF THE CHURCH.

In regarding the interior condition of our Church, the first great fact that presents itself is, the unusual number, as compared with recent years, of

Revivals of Religion.

Almost every Presbytery has sent up the cheering intelligence of these displays of Divine grace upon more or less of its congregations. Some have represented their entire fields as being visited with the refreshing showers of Heaven. It is a peculiarly gratifying fact, in connection with this subject, that many of our colleges and other literary institutions have been reached by these reviving influences; and it is to be hoped that not a few have been converted, who will ere long come up as ministers to labor amid the desolations, where more laborers are so greatly needed.

There is reason to believe that the word of salvation is faithfully and

fully preached in all our congregations; that the ministers of Christ, with the elders and other members of the churches, are using with fidelity all the ordinary and approved means for promoting their appropriate gospel work; and that, under these influences, the great body of believers is being perfected more and more in knowledge and grace, as well as adding to itself daily of such as shall be saved.

It does not appear that any serious dissensions are disturbing any portion of the Church; but that, on the contrary, great peace and harmony every where prevail.

Church Extension.

We have gratifying evidence, that the interest felt in the various enterprises of Christian benevolence is rather increasing than declining. We are particularly interested in the notices afforded of a greatly augmented zeal in almost every portion of the Church, in behalf of those causes which aim especially to extend the influence of the Gospel in our own country. The conviction is evidently gaining strength, that, while "the field is the world," and we are bound to do all that we can to send the Gospel to the utmost ends of the earth, we are yet especially constrained by the necessity of the case, if we would long retain the power of doing any thing for Christ, and by the most obvious principles of simple duty, to exert ourselves for the universal diffusion of a strong Gospel influence in this land.

The Sabbath.

Much attention is being directed every where to the cause of Sabbath observance, and results are reported to us in this relation of a most cheering character.

Temperance.

There seems to be a decline only in respect to the cause of Temperance. A few Presbyteries report favorably on this subject; but, for the most part, the language employed is eminently gloomy and disheartening. We make this announcement with the profoundest sorrow.

Education.

In regard to the efforts made in behalf of the rising generation, we are happy to say, that we see much cause for rejoicing. Sabbath-schools and Bible-classes are maintained every where, with great and growing interest, and with apparently increased success. It affords us peculiar pleasure to report, also, that the Shorter Catechism is having assigned to it, very generally, the place to which it is properly entitled in this department of instruction. We regret that, in connection with what is being done for children and youth, we are not able to speak positively of the extent to which is observed the patriarchal institution of parental and household teaching.

On the whole, we feel that we have much reason to rejoice in the report which it is our privilege to make, and that we are specially called upon to render devout praise and thanksgiving to the great Head of the Church for his grace bestowed on us.

Decease of Ministers.

It is our melancholy duty to announce that, during the last year, Death has been reaping among us his accustomed harvest. The catalogue of deceased ministers contains some of the brightest names of the Church.

In this respect, the year covered by this report has been one of severe but righteous visitation; in view of which it becomes us especially to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, and to pray earnestly that the rod may be sanctified to our own souls.

Since the meeting of the last Assembly, the following twenty-nine ministers have departed this life, viz.:—

Thomas Gordon,	of the Presbytery of	Troy.
David Porter, D. D.,	"	Columbia.
Seth Williston, D. D.,	"	"
William Salisbury,	"	Delaware.
Charles Bowles,	"	Watertown.
Washington Thacher,	"	Utica.
W. W. Robinson,	"	Geneva.
Samuel Scott,	"	Tioga.
Ethan Pratt,	"	Bath.
Jonathan Huntting,	"	Long Island.
Herman Norton,	"	New York, Third.
Henry White, D. D.,	"	" Fourth.
Erskine Mason, D. D.,	"	" "
Ward Stafford,	"	Newark.
Pierce Chamberlain,	"	Wilmington.
Nathan B. Purinton,	"	Trumbull.
Alonzo H. Butler,	"	Maumee.
Theron C. Depew,	"	St. Joseph.
Ludovicus Robbins,	"	Marshall.
Stephen C. Hickok,	"	"
Hollis Russell,	"	Kalamazoo.
Chester Colton,	"	Dayton.
Albert A. Vance,	"	Madison.
Harvey Blodget,	"	Illinois.
Lycurgus P. Kimball,	"	Schuyler.
W. A. B. McCuistian,	"	Des Moines.
William Gray,	"	Ottawa.
George Clark,	"	St. Louis.
Campbel Boyd,	"	Kingston.

We have also to record the names of two other ministers, who departed this life in the year preceding, but were not reported to the last Assembly:—

John Batey,	of the Presbytery of	Brooklyn.
John Barrett,	"	Trumbull.

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

In conclusion, we are happy to report the most gratifying evidence of prosperity, progress, and peace in those branches of the Church of Christ with which we are in correspondence, and whose delegates have communicated with us, either personally or by letter, during the session of this Assembly, viz.:—

The General Associations of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and New York; the General Conference of Maine; the General Conventions of Vermont and Wisconsin; and the General Synods of the Lutheran and German Reformed Churches.

ALBERT BARNES, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF PRESBYTERIAL REPORTS.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Ad. Bap.	Inf. Bap.	Comm. Fund.	Conting. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	5	98	3	1	85	247	111	10,472	65	219	$94 90	$8 75	A. Bordman Lambert.
1. Champlain	1814	...	26	...	...	20	54	33	2,760	20	89	.....	5 00	David Dobie.
2. Troy	1820	...	22	3	...	20	63	27	3,013	32	45	22 00	.....	A. Bordman Lambert.
3. Albany	1791	...	10	...	...	8	7	8	1,274	1	20	26 54	.....	Thomas S. Wickes.
4. Columbia	1802	...	22	...	1	18	58	32	2,097	12	65	46 36	3 75	Josiah Leonard.
5. Delaware*	1831	...	18	...	...	19	65	11	1,328	.....	.....	.....	.....	Isaac D. Cornwell.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	5	86	2	1	98	339	194	9,127	83	145	97 30	15 67	Franklin A. Spencer.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	7	...	...	9	13	26	788	4	30	5 00	1 50	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	14	...	...	22	63	26	2,450	28	21	45 60	1 25	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego	1823	...	15	...	...	22	133	40	1,437	19	22	.....	.....	Robert W. Condit, D. D.
4. Otsego	1820	...	12	...	...	19	73	30	1,551	20	34	3 70	.....	John G. Hall.
5. Utica	1842	...	38	2	1	26	57	72	2,901	12	38	43 00	12 92	Samuel W. Brace.
III. Synod of Geneva	1812	10	212	35	9	198	631	629	21,421	217	395	208 04	20 00	Henry A. Nelson.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	36	...	...	27	168	89	3,241	63	71	50 50	15 00	Seth P. M. Hastings.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	38	31	4	23	66	56	2,620	33	31	42 90	.....	Henry A. Nelson.
3. Geneva	1805	...	43	2	...	33	79	93	4,736	12	92	21 63	.....	William Hogarth.
4. Cortland	1825	...	13	...	...	16	77	42	1,760	30	47	5 75	3 00	Hercules R. Dunham.
5. Chenango	1826	...	14	1	3	17	46	57	1,759	12	23	4 00	.....	Amos C. Tuttle.
6. Tioga	1829	...	16	...	...	15	16	50	1,926	1	37	20 45	.....	Philip C. Hay, D. D.
7. Bath	1817	...	14	1	...	18	31	34	1,513	11	26	18 05	.....	Robert E. Willson.
8. Chemung	1836	...	17	...	1	21	42	100	1,514	23	35	14 76	.....	Charles C. Carr.
9. Ithaca	1839	...	11	...	1	15	94	96	1,961	27	16	30 00	.....	William N. McHarg.
10. Pennsylvania	1845	...	10	...	...	13	12	12	391	5	17	.....	2 00	Samuel J. McCullough.
IV. Synod of Genesee	1821	6	129	4	...	126	261	307	14,763	73	181	68 61	50	Timothy Stillman.
1. Genesee	1819	...	14	1	...	15	70	78	1,728	17	29	.....	.....	Charles N. Mattoon.
2. Ontario*	1817	...	20	...	...	19	.....	.....	2,356	.....	.....	.....	.....	John Barnard, Jr.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

3. Rochester*	1819	...	25	...	...	20	.....	.....	3,318	.....	.....	.....	.....	Augustus W. Cowles.
4. Niagara	1817	...	20	...	...	16	47	76	2,155	11	37	23 61	.....	Charles E. Furman.
5. Buffalo	1823	...	40	3	...	37	114	125	3,478	31	104	45 00	.....	Timothy Stillman.
6. Angelica	1828	...	10	...	...	19	30	28	1,728	14	11	.....	50	Joel Wakeman.
V. Synod of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	10	188	35	15	133	741	633	22,505	231	604	336 33	104 53	John N. Lewis.
1. Hudson	1797	...	15	1	1	12	95	49	1,760	44	76	54 30	5 00	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	14	3	1	15	84	26	1,722	31	43	20 50	5 00	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	8	...	...	6	8	6	625	3	27	12 50	2 00	Amos E. Lawrence.
4. New York, Third	1831	...	39	14	8	15	126	160	4,919	32	162	44 06	65 53	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, Fourth	1845	...	21	12	3	12	75	98	2,930	14	67	95 44	12 00	Thomas H. Skinner, Jr.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	19	3	1	7	55	106	2,030	8	47	42 86	5 00	Jonathan M. Rowland.
7. Newark	1824	...	30	2	...	17	128	124	3,765	39	81	47 53	10 00	Ebenezer Seymour.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	18	...	1	18	65	33	2,582	33	32	10 00	.....	Joel Campbell.
9. Montrose	1832	...	19	...	...	28	105	31	2,172	27	69	9 14	.....	Adam Miller.
10. San Francisco*	1849	...	5	...	...	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel H. Willey.
VI. Synod of Pennsylvania	1838	4	66	10	2	63	464	253	10,111	125	386	139 43	76 07	John McKnight.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	14	1	...	18	46	19	1,405	3	42	15 62	2 75	Horatio S. Howell.
2. Philadelphia, Third	1832	...	14	2	...	13	141	53	2,749	27	151	4 24	.....	John McKnight.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth	1845	...	27	7	2	23	203	158	4,846	76	149	71 57	71 57	Charles Brown.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	11	...	...	9	74	23	1,111	19	44	48 00	1 75	Conway P. Wing.
VII. Synod of W. Penna	1843	3	22	...	...	31	98	67	2,436	23	100	63 45	6 50	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	9	...	...	15	43	38	1,055	10	36	36 95	1 50	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	7	...	...	13	41	22	840	9	34	18 50	3 00	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	6	...	...	3	14	7	541	4	30	8 00	2 00	Benjamin J. Wallace.
VIII. Synod of Michigan	1834	7	80	3	4	118	426	332	7,498	142	247	93 31	17 50	George Duffield, D. D.
1. Detroit	1826	...	19	1	1	27	114	85	2,102	35	75	.....	5 00	Robert R. Kellogg.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	15	...	1	26	77	31	1,206	28	51	40 00	.....	Norman Kellogg.
3. Monroe	1833	...	14	...	...	16	139	47	1,054	54	39	25 19	5 00	John Monteith.
4. Marshall	1838	...	17	1	2	17	62	94	1,274	22	38	5 47	6 50	Samuel H. Hall.
5. Washtenaw	1838	...	15	1	...	15	14	48	1,110	3	39	15 65	1 00	William S. Curtis.
6. Kalamazoo	1838	...	12	...	...	11	20	27	661	.....	5	7 00	.....	Ova P. Hoyt.
7. Ionia*	1845	...	5	...	...	6	.....	.....	91	.....	.....	.....	.....	Le Moyne S. Smith.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Ad. Bap.	Inf. Bap.	Comm. Fund.	Contig. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
IX. Synod of W. Reserve.....	1825	8	133	19	...	123	161	208	7,842	40	174	$32 25	$5 00	William Hanford.
1. Grand River.....	1814	...	20	1	...	16	9	24	1,092	1	9	.....	.....	Alanson Saunders.
2. Portage.....	1818	...	30	13	...	16	9	41	1,306	1	27	8 50	75	William Hanford.
3. Huron.....	1823	...	17	1	...	19	72	43	1,252	16	41	.....	2 50	Jonathan B. Parlin.
4. Trumbull.....	1827	...	12	...	...	17	48	26	1,336	16	38	.....	.....	Charles A. Boardman.
5. Cleveland.....	1830	...	22	1	...	14	7	46	1,305	3	28	18 75	1 75	Samuel T. Mills.
6. Medina.....	1836	...	7	...	...	10	.....	.....	345	.....	.....	.....	.....	Sherman D. Taylor.
7. Elyria.....	1842	...	17	3	...	13	7	.....	719	.....	.....	.....	... ..	Alfred H. Betts.
8. Maumee.....	1842	...	8	...	...	18	9	28	487	3	31	5 00	.....	E. Richard Tucker.
X. Synod of Ohio.....	1814	4	52	6	1	71	441	194	4,293	110	262	129 15	11 75	Addison Kingsbury.
1. Athens.....	1822	...	14	3	...	20	122	27	877	26	42	.....	3 25	Lucian C. Ford.
2. Pataskala.....	1809	...	15	...	1	21	76	48	1,539	13	71	38 00	2 25	Alexander Duncan.
3. Franklin.....	1835	...	15	3	...	19	78	55	1,235	21	43	51 15	4 00	Henry L. Hitchcock.
4. Scioto.....	1845	...	8	...	...	11	165	64	642	50	106	40 00	2 25	Joseph Chester.
XI. Synod of Cincinnati.....	1829	3	39	8	1	41	246	145	2,808	74	156	159 25	12 25	Thornton A. Mills.
1. Cincinnati.....	1828	...	20	8	...	15	102	76	1,274	21	60	84 00	10 00	David D. Gregory.
2. Dayton.....	1838	...	8	...	...	15	82	24	857	25	54	25 25	2 25	Daniel Riee.
3. Hamilton.....	1846	...	11	...	1	11	62	45	677	28	42	50 00	.....	Daniel Tenney.
XII. Synod of Indiana.....	1826	4	39	2	1	60	251	160	3,053	81	185	235 10	14 75	Joseph G. Wilson.
1. Salem.....	1823	...	10	...	...	16	59	27	795	11	43	63 10	4 00	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison.....	1825	...	12	1	1	15	76	33	919	30	58	63 50	5 00	Hiram Wason.
3. Indianapolis.....	1830	...	10	...	...	18	55	41	733	12	44	58 50	3 25	Clement E. Babb.
4. Greencastle.....	1850	...	7	1	...	11	61	59	606	28	40	50 00	2 50	William D. Rossiter.
XIII. Synod of Wabash.....	1851	3	30	1	...	47	163	71	1,767	39	95	122 05	3 00	Vacant.
1. Crawfordsville.....	1825	...	12	1	...	12	62	29	487	13	19	25 05	3 00	James H. Johnston.

2. Logansport	1835	...	8	...	...	16	77	32	815	23	60	71 00	.....	Joseph G. Wilson.
3. Fort Wayne	1845	...	9	...	...	19	24	10	465	3	16	26 00	.....	Alfred Hawes.
XIV. Synod of Illinois	1831	5	60	...	2	80	395	274	4,102	71	176	69 50	5 50	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois	1828	...	15	...	...	14	52	52	909	16	18	25 00	.....	Livingston M. Glover.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	10	...	2	15	91	25	954	12	43	.....	.....	Henry C. Abernethy.
3. Wabash	1833	...	5	...	...	6	33	4	215	5	15	11 50	1 00	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	21	...	...	30	65	137	1,449	21	81	25 00	2 00	Augustus T. Norton.
5. Des Moines	1845	...	9	...	...	15	154	46	575	17	19	8 00	2 50	Glen Wood.
XV. Synod of Peoria	1843	7	67	2	4	48	251	246	2,952	63	127	50 99	3 75	Robert W. Patterson.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	15	...	...	10	26	28	240	4	13	5 00	.....	Nahum Gould.
2. Peoria and Knox	1836	...	15	1	...	8	13	36	762	1	8	3 30	.....	Joseph Fowler.
3. Galena	1842	...	9	...	4	14	163	80	728	46	31	3 00	.....	John C. Downer.
4. Chicago	1847	...	13	...	...	6	34	59	737	8	50	20 94	.....	Lewis H. Loss.
5. Belvidere	1847	...	9	...	...	5	9	22	248	4	15	8 75	1 25	Ichabod A. Hart.
6. Minnesota	1850	...	3	...	...	3	6	21	43	.....	10	5 00	1 00	Edward D. Neill.
7. Milwaukie	1851	...	3	1	...	2	.....	.....	194	.....	.....	5 00	1 50	William H. Spencer.
XVI. Synod of Missouri	1832	4	41	...	5	57	118	132	2,221	25	90	86 60	7 00	John Leighton.
1. St. Louis	1831	...	10	...	2	11	74	72	880	13	65	54 50	5 00	Edmund Wright.
2. Northern Missouri	1845	...	10	...	3	14	26	38	680	6	16	.....	.....	John Leighton.
3. Lexington	1845	...	12	...	...	14	.....	.....	323	.....	.....	.....	.....	Tapping S. Reeve.
4. Osage	1845	...	9	...	...	18	18	22	338	6	9	32 10	2 00	Isaac B. Ricketts.
XVII. Synod of Virginia	1788	3	43	6	5	43	130	84	3,816	35	182	161 00	7 00	John C. Smith.
1. Winchester	1794	...	12	2	3	17	46	17	983	12	35	71 00	3 00	Patterson Fletcher.
2. District of Columbia	1831	...	13	2	...	11	40	46	1,486	8	97	.....	.....	Thomas James Shepherd.
3. Hanover	1838	...	18	2	2	15	44	21	1,347	15	50	90 00	4 00	Henry Smith.
XVIII. Synod of Kentucky	1802	3	14	...	6	23	42	22	1,174	21	21	90 00	6 00	Archer C. Dickerson.
1. Harmony	1842	...	5	...	5	8	27	14	442	14	14	.....	5 00	E. Perkins Pratt.
2. Providence	1842	...	5	...	1	6	11	6	506	7	2	90 00	1 00	Thomas H. Cleland.
3. Green River	1842	...	4	...	...	9	4	2	226	.....	5	.....	.....	Archer C. Dickerson.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Ad. Bap.	Inf. Bap.	Comm. Fund.	Conting. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
XIX. Synod of Tennessee.....	1817	4	50	1	4	73	150	68	4,664	27	208	$40 00	$7 75	Fielding Pope.
1. Union.....	1797	...	22	1	3	28	54	27	1,912	11	92	10 00	1 00	Fielding Pope.
2. Holston.....	1826	...	12	...	...	14	40	18	1,441	3	74	30 00	3 00	Daniel Rogan.
3. Kingston.....	1838	...	8	...	...	19	10	18	697	2	24	.....	2 00	William B. Brown.
4. New River.....	1838	...	8	...	1	12	46	5	614	11	18	.....	1 75	George Painter.
XX. Synod of W. Tennessee.	1826	3	25	2	3	37	102	58	2,100	36	155	87 80	11 50	William Eagleton.
1. West Tennessee.....	1810	...	7	...	1	6	17	22	457	3	20	.....	6 50	Bobert C. Garrison.
2. Shiloh.....	1816	...	10	...	1	18	38	15	1,020	13	73	83 00	.....	Amzi Bradshaw.
3. Richland.....	1824	...	8	2	1	13	47	21	623	20	62	4 80	5 00	Archibald M. Pickens.
XXI. Synod of Mississippi...	1846	3	16	1	...	24	42	15	951	26	18	.....	6 00	Alexander Newton, D. D.
1. Clinton.....	1832	...	5	1	...	5	32	3	278	24	13	.....	5 00	George Moore.
2. Lexington, S.....	1845	...	8	...	...	8	2	9	385	2	5	.....	1 00	Charles M. Atkinson.
3. Newton.....	1845	...	3	...	...	11	8	3	288	.....	.....	.....	.....	Duncan A. Campbell.

SCHEDULE OF SYNODS.

NAME.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Ad. Bap.	Inf. Bap.	Comm. Fund.	Conting. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
1. Albany	1803	5	98	3	1	85	247	111	10,472	65	219	$94 90	$ 8 75	A. Bordman Lambert.
2. Utica	1829	5	86	2	1	98	339	194	9,127	83	145	97 30	15 67	Franklin A. Spencer.
3. Geneva	1812	10	212	35	9	198	631	629	21,421	217	395	208 04	20 00	Henry A. Nelson.
4. Genesee	1821	6	129	4	...	126	261	307	14,763	73	181	68 61	50	Timothy Stillman.
5. N. York and N. Jersey	1788	10	188	35	15	133	741	633	22,505	231	604	336 33	104 53	John N. Lewis.
6. Pennsylvania	1838	4	66	10	2	63	464	253	10,111	125	386	139 43	76 07	John McKnight.
7. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	22	...	...	31	98	67	2,436	23	100	63 45	6 50	George A. Lyon, D. D.
8. Michigan	1834	7	80	3	4	118	426	332	7,498	142	247	93 31	17 50	George Duffield, D. D.
9. Western Reserve	1825	8	133	19	...	123	161	208	7,842	40	174	32 25	5 00	William Hanford.
10. Ohio	1814	4	52	6	1	71	441	194	4,293	110	262	129 15	11 75	Addison Kingsbury.
11. Cincinnati	1829	3	39	8	1	41	246	145	2,808	74	156	159 25	12 25	Thornton A. Mills.
12. Indiana	1826	4	39	2	1	60	251	160	3,053	81	185	235 10	14 75	Joseph G. Wilson.
13. Wabash	1851	3	30	1	...	47	163	71	1,767	39	95	122 05	3 00	Vacant.
14. Illinois	1831	5	60	...	2	80	395	274	4,102	71	176	69 50	5 50	George C. Wood.
15. Peoria	1843	7	67	2	4	48	251	246	2,952	63	127	50 99	3 75	Robert W. Patterson.
16. Missouri	1832	4	41	...	5	57	118	132	2,221	25	90	86 60	7 00	John Leighton.
17. Virginia	1788	3	42	6	5	43	130	84	3,816	35	182	161 00	7 00	John C. Smith
18. Kentucky	1802	3	14	...	6	23	42	22	1,174	21	21	90 00	6 00	Archer C. Dickerson.
19. Tennessee	1817	4	50	1	4	73	150	68	4,664	27	208	40 00	7 75	Fielding Pope.
20. West Tennessee	1826	3	25	2	3	37	102	58	2,100	36	155	87 80	11 50	William Eagleton.
21. Mississippi	1846	3	16	1	...	24	42	15	951	26	18	.....	6 00	Alexander Newton, D. D.
		104	1,490	140	64	1,579	5,699	4,203	140,076	1,607	4,126	$2,365 06	$350 77	

COMPARATIVE VIEW.

THE preceding tables show a gratifying increase in all the particulars enumerated, with the single exception of Adult Baptisms.

Of Synods, there are twenty-one; the Synod of Wabash having been erected by the last Assembly.

Of Presbyteries, there are one hundred and four; the Presbyteries of Greencastle, Minnesota and Milwaukie having been constituted during the past year; and the Presbyteries of Peoria and Knox having been united.

Of Ministers, there are one thousand four hundred and ninety; an increase of seventeen; while thirty-one have been removed by death. The Licentiates are one hundred and forty; an increase of three. The Candidates reported are sixty-four; an increase of four. A large number of Candidates in addition to these, who have not yet formally been taken under the care of their respective Presbyteries, are pursuing a course of academical and theological study in the several academies, colleges, and theological seminaries in our connection. It is very commonly the case, that the candidate delays his application to the Presbytery until the last year or two of his theological course.

Of Churches, there are one thousand five hundred and seventy-nine; an increase of eleven. The Additions to the churches have been, on Examination, five thousand six hundred and seventy-nine; and, on Certificate, four thousand two hundred and three; an increase over the previous year in both particulars, and more than in any other year since 1837. The Communicants are one hundred and forty thousand and seventy-six; an increase of two hundred and seventy-nine.

Of Baptisms, one thousand six hundred and seven Adults have been reported, and four thousand one hundred and twenty-six Infants; a decrease of one hundred and seven adults, and an increase of thirty infants.

Of contributions to the Commissioners' Fund, the sum of two thousand three hundred and sixty-five dollars and six cents has been reported, and to the Contingent Fund, three hundred and fifty dollars and seventy-seven cents; an increase, to the former, of eight hundred and forty-three dollars and eighty-four cents; and to the latter, of one hundred and twenty-two dollars and twenty-two cents.

All the Presbyteries have reported, with the exception of Delaware, Ontario, Rochester, San Francisco, and Ionia. Many of the reports, however, are exceedingly imperfect; from a large number of churches no returns have been received. It is greatly to be desired that every Presbytery would take measures to insure full returns from all their churches.

All which is respectfully submitted.

EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

New York, July 14*th*, 1851.

MINUTES, 1852.

Washington City, May 20th, 1852.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the city of Washington, in the Fourth Presbyterian church, on Thursday, the 20th day of May, 1852, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Albert Barnes, the Moderator of the last Assembly, from 1 Cor. xii. 4–11: "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations; but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues. But all these worketh that one and the self-same Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

After sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions presented their report, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled as duly-appointed Commissioners to this General Assembly, viz.:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	Abraham D. Brinkerhoff,	
	John Mattocks.	
2. *Troy*,	N. S. S. Beman, D. D.,	Hiram Slocum (2),*
	Courtney Smith,	Wyatt R. Swift (2).
3. *Albany*,	H. Mandeville, D. D. (2),	Richard J. Knowlson (2).
4. *Columbia*,	Henry Darling,	Charles Paul.
5. *Delaware*,	Julius S. Pattengill,	Eli Boies.
6. *Catskill*,	Leonard B. Van Dyck,	Alban Crocker. [148]

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	Elijah W. Plumb,	Harvey D. Smith.
2. *Watertown*,	Joseph A. Canfield,	John C. Stirling.
3. *Oswego*,	Ebenezer G. Townsend.	
4. *Otsego*,	John G. Hall,	James M. Peak, M. D.
5. *Utica*,	Philemon H. Fowler,	Spencer Kellogg.
	William A. Knox,	

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Onondaga*,	William H. Cooper,	Revillo C. Hatch (2),
	William W. Williams,	Alfred Cobb.

* The figures show on what day of the sessions the Commissioner presented his credentials and took his seat.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
2. *Cayuga*,	Simon S. Goss,	Chester Parsons,
	William S. Franklin,	Hon. Daniel Hewson.
3. *Geneva*,	Samuel H. Gridley,	Richard G. Pardee,
	Silas Hawley,	Columbus Croul.
4. *Cortland*,	Hercules R. Dunham,	William Elder.
5. *Chenango*,	John B. Hoyt.	Gilbert D. Phillips.
6. *Tioga*,	Peter Lockwood.	
7. *Bath*,	Oris Fraser.	James H. Hotchkin.
8. *Chemung*,	Anson H. Parmelee,	Joel D. Gillett.
9. *Ithaca*,	William Wisner, D. D.,	Edmund Brown, M. D.
10. *Pennsylvania*,	James F. Calkins.	

IV. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Genesee*,	Thomas M. Hodgman,	Hon. Aug. P. Hascall.
2. *Ontario*,	Henry Kendall,	Henry L. Young.
3. *Rochester.*		
4. *Niagara*,	Charles E. Furman,	Stephen P. Morehouse.
5. *Buffalo*,	Timothy Stillman,	E. Sterling Ely.
	Albert T. Chester, D. D.,	
6. *Angelica*,		Hon. Laurens Hull, M. D.

V. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	John N. Lewis,	Marcus Sears, M. D.
2. *North River*,	A. Cogswell Frissell,	Henry White, M. D.
3. *Long Island*,	Henry Clark,	Edward Huntting.
4. *New York*, 3*d*,	Alf. E. Campbell, D. D.,	Hon. John L. Mason,
	Asa D. Smith, D. D.,	Charles Starr, Jr.
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	J. Parsons Hovey,	Marcus Wilbur,
	Wm. Adams, D. D.,	Joseph E. Marshall.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Daniel P. Noyes,	John C. Halsey, M. D.
7. *Newark*,	Jona. F. Stearns, D. D.,	Samuel P. Smith.
	William Whittaker (2),	
8. *Rockaway*,	Sylvester Cooke,	Hon. Daniel Haines.
9. *Montrose*,	Henry A. Rowland,	Hon. Wm. Jessup, LL.D.
10. *San Francisco.*		[149]

VI. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	Walter S. F. Graham.	
2. *Philadelphia*, 3*d*,	John McKnight,	William Denny,
	Beriah B. Hotchkin,	Hon. William Darling.
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	George Duffield, Jr.,	Hon. A. Naudain, M. D.,
	Amasa Converse, D. D.,	J. Marshall Paul, M. D. (2).
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Conway P. Wing,	James W. Weir.

VII. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	Geo. A. Lyon, D. D.,	George Kellogg.
2. *Meadville*,	Jonathan A. Woodruff.	
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Benj. J. Wallace (5),	Thomas J. Campbell.

VIII. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Detroit*,	George Duffield, D. D.,	Henry C. Knight.
2. *St. Joseph*,	Jacob Patch.	
3. *Monroe*,	George C. Curtis,	Charles Noble (2).
4. *Marshall*,	Mills B. Gelston,	Philo Dibble (2).
5. *Washtenaw*,	Charles G. Clark,	William C. Voorheis.
6. *Kalamazoo.*		

IX. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River.*		
2. *Portage*,	Myron Tracy (2).	
3. *Huron*,	Joseph M. Hayes,	James B. Watson (2).
4. *Trumbull*,	Loomis Chandler.	
5. *Cleveland*,	James Shaw (2),	Stephen Whittaker.
6. *Medina.*		
7. *Elyria*,	David A. Grosvenor.	
8. *Maumee*,	John McCutchan.	

X. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Lucian C. Ford,	Barzillai Jewett.
2. *Pataskala*,	Samuel W. Rose.	
3. *Franklin*,	James Harrison,	Benoni Dickerman (2).
4. *Scioto*,	Marcus Hicks.	

XI. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	Samuel W. Fisher,	Gabriel Tichenor,
	Thornton A. Mills,	A. L. Bushnell, M. D. (2).
2. *Dayton*,	E. Roger Johnson,	Joel Forgey.
3. *Hamilton*,	Daniel Tenney,	Reuben E. Hills.

XII. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	Wm. H. McCarer.	
2. *Madison*,	Hiram Wason,	Edwin G. Whitney.
3. *Indianapolis*,	Benjamin F. Cole,	John M. Boyd, M. D. (4).
4. *Greencastle*,	William M. Cheever,	John Ott. [150]

XIII. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	Amzi W. Freeman.	
2. *Logansport*,	George D. Miller.	
3. *Fort Wayne*,	Alfred Hawes,	Benjamin W. Oakley.
4. *Elkhart*,	Nathan L. Lord.	

XIV. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	Wm. G. Gallaher (4),	Samuel Rannels (4).
2. *Schuyler*,	Henry C. Abernethy.	
3. *Wabash.*		
4. *Alton*,	Joseph A. Ranney,	Lawson A. Parks.
5. *Des Moines*,	Wm. W. Woods, M. D.	

XV. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Ottawa*,	Henry Bergen.	
2. *Peoria and Knox*,	Wells Andrews.	
3. *Galena*,	Aratus Kent.	
4. *Chicago*,	Robert W. Patterson.	
5. *Belvidere*,	Alfred Eddy.	Sidney Avery.
6. *Minnesota*,	Edward D. Neill.	
7. *Milwaukee*,	Samuel N. Steele,	John Ogden.
8. *Fox River*,	Cyrus E. Rosencrans.	

XVI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	James Gallaher,	Martin Simpson.
2. *North'n Missouri*,	Joseph L. Bennett (2).	
3. *Lexington*,	Samuel J. M. Beebee (2).	
4. *Osage*,	Albert G. Taylor.	

XVII. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester*,	Abraham D. Pollock,	James Burr.
2. *Dist. of Columbia*,	James R. Eckard,	Jacob Gideon.
3. *Hanover*,	Stephen Taylor, D. D.,	Carter Braxton.

XVIII. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

1. *Harmony*,	H. Sneed McElroy,	Alexander Hamilton.
2. *Providence*,	Thomas Cleland, D. D.,	Jno. C. Maxwell, M. D. (2).
3. *Green River*,	Samuel Y. Garrison.	

XIX. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union*,	Nathaniel Hood,	Horace Maynard.
2. *Holston.*		
3. *Kingston*,	Thomas Brown (2).	
4. *New River*,	George Painter,	Abraham Painter.

XX. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

1. *West Tennessee*,	George H. Blair,	William O. N. Perkins.
2. *Shiloh.*		
3. *Richland*,	Archibald M. Pickens.	[151]

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

1. *Clinton.*		
2. *S. Lexington.*		
3. *Newton.*	Hervey Woods.	

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

General Association of Connecticut,	Rev. Hiram P. Arms.
" " *Massachusetts*,	Rev. Eber Carpenter.
" " *New Hampshire*,	Rev. Cyrus W. Wallace.
General Conference of Maine,	Rev. Joseph Blake.
General Convention of Vermont,	Rev. A. Huntington Clapp.
General Evan. Consociation of R. Island.	
Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin,	Rev. John J. Miter.

General Synod of the Lutheran Church in the United States.
General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, Rev. Jacob O. Miller.
General Association of New York, Rev. O. Ellsworth Daggett (2).
General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

The Committee further reported the case of the Rev. A. Cogswell Frissell, from the Presbytery of North River, as appearing without a Commission.

The Assembly having received other and satisfactory evidence of his appointment as a Commissioner, it was resolved that Mr. Frissell be received as a member, and his name was put upon the Roll of the Assembly.

The Assembly proceeded to the election of a Moderator. Nominations were made, the Roll was called, and the Rev. William Adams, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York, Fourth, was elected, and inducted into office in the usual form.

The Rev. John N. Lewis, of the Presbytery of Hudson, was in the same manner elected Temporary Clerk.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Resolved, That the Assembly will, for the present, hold its daily sessions from 9 o'clock A. M. to 2 o'clock P. M.; and from 4½ o'clock to 6½ o'clock P. M.; and that the first half hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 21st, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Half an hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

After which, the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved. [152]

The Committee of Commissions reported the following new Commissioners, whose names were put upon the Roll of the Assembly, viz.:

Rev. James Shaw,	from the	Presb'y of	Cleveland.
Elder J. Marshall Paul, M. D.,	"	"	Philadelphia, Fourth.
" Wyatt R. Smith,	"	"	Troy.
" Hiram Slocum,	"	"	"
" James B. Watson,	"	"	Huron.
Rev. Thomas Brown,	"	"	Kingston.
" Henry Mandeville, D. D.,	"	"	Albany.
Elder Richard J. Knowlson,	"	"	"
Rev. William Whittaker,	"	"	Newark.
" Joseph L. Bennett,	"	"	Northern Missouri.
Elder Alfred Cobb,	"	"	Onondaga.
" Andrew L. Bushnell, M. D.,	"	"	Cincinnati.
" Benoni Dickerman,	"	"	Franklin.
" Philo Dibble,	"	"	Marshall.

They also reported the Rev. Oliver Ellsworth Daggett, Delegate from the General Association of New York, whose name was enrolled accordingly.

The docket of business was read by the Stated Clerk.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed under the direction of the Clerks.

The Moderator announced the following *Standing Committees*, viz.:

1. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—Stephen Taylor, D. D., Henry A. Rowland, Philemon H. Fowler, and Robert W. Patterson. *Elders*—Hon. John L. Mason, James W. Weir, and Henry C. Knight.

2. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—William Wisner, D. D., Asa D. Smith, D. D., Hervey Woods, and James Harrison. *Elders*—Hon. Daniel Haines, Hon. Arnold Naudain, M. D., and Carter Braxton.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., Thomas Cleland, D. D., Amasa Converse, D. D., and George A. Lyon, D. D. *Elders*—Hon. William Darling, Hon. Daniel Hewson, and William O. N. Perkins.

4. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—George Duffield, D. D., James R. Eckard, Henry Kendall, and Abraham D. Pollock. *Elders*—Jacob Gideon and Hon. Augustus P. Hascall.

5. *Narrative. Ministers*—Samuel W. Fisher, Aratus Kent, Leonard B. Van Dyck, and Conway P. Wing.

6. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., George C. Curtis, and Henry C. Abernethy. *Elders*—Spencer Kellogg and Thomas J. Campbell.

7. *Mileage. Elders*—Charles Starr, Jr., Henry L. Young, and Reuben E. Hills.

8. *On Elections. Ministers*—Henry Mandeville, D. D., and Sylvester Cooke. *Elder*—James W. Weir.

The Moderator also announced the following Committees on Synodical Records, viz.: On the Records of the Synod of

1. *Albany. Ministers*—Albert T. Chester, D. D., and Walter S. F. Graham. *Elder*—Henry White, M. D. [153]

2. *Utica. Ministers*—Thornton A. Mills and James F. Calkins. *Elder*—George Kellogg.

3. *Geneva. Ministers*—Joseph A. Ranney and Henry Clark. *Elder*—Sydney Avery.

4. *Genesee. Ministers*—John McKnight and Alfred Eddy. *Elder*—Alexander Hamilton.

5. *New York and New Jersey. Ministers*—Timothy Stillman and Henry Darling. *Elder*—William Denny.

6. *Pennsylvania. Ministers*—Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., and Jacob Patch. *Elder*—James M. Peak, M. D.

7. *West Pennsylvania. Ministers*—Abraham D. Brinkerhoff and A. Cogswell Frissell. *Elder*—Chester Parsons.

8. *Michigan. Ministers*—Hercules R. Dunham and John Mattocks. *Elder*—Edwin G. Whitney.

9. *Western Reserve. Ministers*—George H. Blair and Elijah W. Plumb. *Elder*—Benjamin W. Oakley.

10. *Ohio. Ministers*—Daniel P. Noyes and Joseph A. Canfield. *Elder*—James H. Hotchkin.

11. *Cincinnati. Ministers*—William E. Knox and Jonathan A. Woodruff. *Elder*—Lawson A. Parks.

12. *Indiana. Ministers*—Courtney Smith and Mills B. Gelston. *Elder*—Barzillai Jewett.

13. *Wabash. Ministers*—Samuel H. Gridley and Lucien C. Ford. *Elder*—E. Sterling Ely.

14. *Illinois. Ministers*—Beriah B. Hotchkin and Hiram Wason. *Elder*—Edward Huntting.

15. *Peoria. Ministers*—Sylvester Cooke and Simon S. Goss. *Elder*—Reuben E. Hills.

16. *Missouri. Ministers*—George Duffield, Jr., and Anson H. Parmelee. *Elder*—Stephen Whittaker.

17. *Virginia. Ministers*—J. Parsons Hovey and Charles E. Furman. *Elder*—William C. Voorheis.

18. *Kentucky. Ministers.*—E. Roger Johnson and Silas Hawley. *Elder*—Alban Crocker.

19. *Tennessee. Ministers*—Joseph M. Hayes and Ebenezer G. Townsend. *Elder*—Revillo C. Hatch.

20. *West Tennessee. Ministers*—David A. Grosvenor and William H. Cooper. *Elder*—John C. Stirling.

21. *Mississippi. Ministers*—Benjamin F. Cole and John G. Hall. *Elder*—Richard G. Pardee.

The Synodical Records were received, and put into the hands of the respective Committees.

Resolved, That hereafter all memorials, appeals, complaints, and papers from Synods and Presbyteries, be placed in the hands of the Moderator, who shall pass them to the appropriate Committees.

Several papers were thus received, and referred agreeably to the above resolution.

For the purpose of giving the members of the Assembly an opportunity of visiting the tomb of Washington at Mt. Vernon, and also of paying their respects to the President of the United States, it was [154] unanimously resolved, that, when the Assembly adjourn this afternoon, it will adjourn until Monday at 9 o'clock A. M.

The reception of the Narratives and Statistical Reports was made the order of the day for 4½ o'clock this afternoon.

The reception of moneys for the Funds of the Assembly was made the order of the day for 2 o'clock P. M.

The election of Trustees of the General Assembly, and also of Directors of the Theological Seminaries, was referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The nomination of the next preacher on Home Missions was referred to the Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., Rev. Abraham D. Pollock, and Andrew L. Bushnell, M. D.

The nomination of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies was made the order of the day for this afternoon, immediately after the reception of the Narratives and Statistical Reports.

The report of the Treasurer was received, and with the vouchers referred to the Hon. Laurens Hull, M. D., the Hon. Augustus P. Hascall, and Mr. Charles Starr, Jr., to be audited.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Digest, reported that a Digest sufficient for the present had been prepared by other hands, and requested therefore to be discharged. Their report was accepted, and the Committee discharged.

The Committee on Legacies reported progress, and were continued.

Took a recess for ten minutes.

After recess, the Committee on Church Extension made their report, which was accepted, and ordered to be printed for the use of the members.

The consideration of the report was made the order of the day for Monday, at 11 o'clock A. M.

Adjourned until 4½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 21st, 4½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Roll was called.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were placed on the Roll, viz.:

Rev. Myron Tracy,	from the Presbytery of	Portage.
Elder Charles Noble,	"	"	Monroe.
" John C. Maxwell, M. D.,	"	"	Providence.

The Narratives and Statistical Reports were received, and put into the hands of the Stated Clerk.

The Rev. Samuel J. M. Beebee, from the Presbytery of Lexington, appeared in the Assembly, and stated that his Commission, which was to be forwarded to him at this city, had not yet come to hand; and his [155] case was referred to the Rev. Henry Mandeville, D. D., Rev. Sylvester Cooke, and Mr. James W. Weir, as a *Committee of Elections*.

After some time, the Committee reported, and on their recommendation, Mr. Beebee was admitted to a seat.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made a report, which was adopted, recommending the following supplies for the pulpits of this city and vicinity on the ensuing Lord's day, viz.:

First Presbyterian Church—Rev. O. Ellsworth Daggett and Rev. Samuel W. Fisher.

Second Presbyterian Church—Rev. Philemon H. Fowler and Rev. George C. Curtis.

Fourth Presbyterian Church—Rev. William Adams, D. D., Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., and Rev. George Duffield, D. D.

F St. Presbyterian Church—Rev. Abraham D. Pollock.

Colored Presbyterian Church—Rev. Thornton A. Mills and Rev. Joseph A. Ranney.

Foundry (M. E.) Chapel—Rev. Conway P. Wing.

McKendree (M. E.) Chapel—Rev. Jacob O. Miller and Rev. William H. M'Carer.

Wesley (M. E.) Chapel—Rev. Henry Kendall and Rev. Samuel N. Steele.

Union (M. E.) Chapel—Rev. Albert T. Chester, D. D., and Rev. Samuel H. Gridley.

Ebenezer (M. E.) Chapel—Rev. Timothy Stillman and Rev. William E. Knox.

Ryland (M. E.) Chapel—Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., and Rev. Daniel Tenney.

St. Paul's (Lutheran) Church—Rev. George F. Wiswell and Rev. Henry A. Rowland.

First Baptist Church—Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., and Rev. Hiram P. Arms.

E St. Baptist Church—Rev. Henry Mandeville, D. D., and Rev. Cyrus P. Wallace.

Methodist Protestant Church—Rev. William W. Woods, M. D., and Rev. William H. Cooper.

Second Presbyterian Church, Alexandria—Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., Rev. George Duffield, Jr., and Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.

Methodist Episcopal Church, Alexandria—Rev. George Duffield, Jr.

Presbyterian Church, Georgetown—Rev. Stephen Taylor, D. D.

Methodist Episcopal Church, Georgetown—Rev. Alfred Eddy and Rev. Henry Darling.

Methodist Protestant Church, Georgetown—Rev. John N. Lewis and Rev. William W. Williams.

They also recommended that the Lord's Supper be administered in this church, on Thursday next, at 4½ o'clock P. M., with the following arrangements, viz.:

Reading a Hymn and Prayer, by the Moderator.

Reading the Scriptures and an Address, by Rev. Thomas Cleland, D. D.

Prayer and distribution of the Bread, by Rev. Stephen Taylor, D. D. [156]

Distribution of the Cup, by Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D.

Address, by Rev. George Duffield, D. D.

Reading a Hymn and the Benediction, by the Moderator.

The following elders were appointed to assist in distributing the elements, viz.: Messrs. Spencer Kellogg, Jacob Gideon, Hon. Daniel Haines, Hon. Wm. Darling, Charles Noble, James Burr, Alexander Hamilton, and Andrew L. Bushnell, M. D.

The appointment of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies was taken up, when it was resolved that the Assembly will hereafter appoint but one Delegate with an alternate to each of the bodies in correspondence with us.

The Auditing Committee reported, that they had examined the accounts of the Treasurer, with the accompanying vouchers, and found them correct; and that the balance in his hands carried to the new account is $27.57.

The report was adopted.

Nominations were made of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, and the election was made the order of the day for Monday, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Resolved, That the candidate having the second place in each vote, be regarded as the alternate.

Reports were received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies: from the Rev. Benjamin W. Chidlaw, one of the Delegates to the General Association of Connecticut; from the Rev. David B. Coe, the alternate Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; from the Rev. William H. Spencer, one of the Delegates to the Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin; and from the Rev. Conway P. Wing, the Delegate to the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Resolved, To hear the Delegates from Corresponding Bodies, in such statements as they may desire to make, on Monday next, after the first order of the day.

It was made the order of the day for Tuesday morning next, to hear the reports from Theological Seminaries.

Resolved, That the agents of benevolent societies, who may desire to address the Assembly, be referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises, who will recommend to the Assembly a suitable time for the presentation of the claims of their respective societies.

The Assembly renewed the recommendation of former Assemblies, to observe the first Monday of January as a day of fasting and prayer for the Conversion of the World. Also, that the last Thursday of February be observed as a day of prayer for Colleges.

Nominations of a place for the meeting of the next Assembly were made, and the designation made the order of the day for Monday, at 4½ o'clock P. M.

Adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [157]

Monday, May 24th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual half hour of devotional exercises, the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were placed on the Roll of the Assembly, viz.:

Rev. William G. Gallaher, from the Presbytery of Illinois.
Elder Samuel Rannels, " " "
" John M. Boyd, M. D., " " Indianapolis.

The Judicial Committee reported a complaint of Franklin Knox against the Synod of Missouri, as in order, and recommended that it be taken up and issued by the Assembly.

The report was put upon the docket.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz., the election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies. The Rev. Peter Lockwood and Elder Richard G. Pardee were appointed a Committee to collect and count the votes.

The Delegates from Corresponding Bodies were then heard in such statements as they desired to make. The Rev. Hiram P. Arms, from the General Association of Connecticut; the Rev. Eber Carpenter, from the General Association of Massachusetts; the Rev. Cyrus W. Wallace, from the General Association of New Hampshire; the Rev. Joseph Blake, from the General Conference of Maine; the Rev. A. Huntington Clapp, from the General Convention of Vermont; and the Rev. O. Ellsworth Daggett, from the General Association of New York; made interesting communications on the state of religion, education, and temperance, within their respective bounds.

After which, the Moderator, in the name of the Assembly, made an appropriate response to the Delegates of Corresponding Bodies, expressing the kind feelings of the Presbyterian Church towards the various ecclesiastical bodies which have been here represented.

A letter was received from the Rev. Hiram A. Hunter, Delegate from the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, apologizing for his absence, having been stopped by sickness on his way to this body; and expressing the cordial fellowship of his denomination with the churches represented in this Assembly.

The Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., offered the following resolutions, which were considered and adopted:

"*Whereas*, the members of this General Assembly, as a body, made a most interesting visit, on Saturday, May 22d, to Mount Vernon, and the tomb of General George Washington, the Father of his Country: and *whereas*, this excursion has awakened in our minds recollections and emotions of a peculiar character, binding our hearts more closely to our common country, and its political and religious institutions: and *whereas*, we desire, as an ecclesiastical body, to create a lasting memorial of this event and its influence upon our own hearts: therefore,

"*Resolved*, That we procure and present a block of marble for the Monument now in the process of erection to the memory of Washington in this city. [158]

"*Resolved*, That said marble block bear the following inscription: 'The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, in session in Washington City, May, 1852.'

"*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to receive contributions from the members of the Assembly, to procure said block of marble, and to give it its proper destination."

The Rev. James R. Eckard, with Messrs. Jacob Gideon and Carter Braxton, were appointed the Committee on the foregoing resolutions.

Resolved, That the sermon on Home Missions be delivered in this church, on Wednesday next, at 8 o'clock P. M.

Adjourned until 4½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 24th, 4½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee appointed to collect and count the votes, reported that the following persons had been duly elected Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, viz.: To the

General Association of Connecticut—Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., principal; and Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., alternate.

General Association of Massachusetts—Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., principal; and Rev. Stephen Taylor, D. D., alternate.

General Association of New Hampshire—Rev. Randolph A. Smith, principal; and Rev. A. Cogswell Frissell, alternate.

General Conference of Maine—Rev. Silas Hawley, principal; and Rev. Charles N. Mattoon, alternate.

General Convention of Vermont—Rev. Myron Tracy, principal; and Rev. Amasa Converse, D. D., alternate.

Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island—Rev. Henry Clark, principal; and Rev. Conway P. Wing, alternate

Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin—Rev. Robert W. Patterson, principal; and Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., alternate.

General Synod of the Lutheran Church in the United States—Rev. Robert Adair, principal; and Rev. William H. Cooper, alternate.

General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States—Rev. William R. De Witt, D. D., principal; and Rev. Henry Mandeville, D. D., alternate.

General Association of New York—Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., principal; and Rev. Henry Kendall, alternate.

General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church—Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, principal; and Rev. Elias R. Fairchild, D. D., alternate.

The Assembly proceeded to determine the place for the meeting of the next General Assembly. The Roll was called, and Buffalo was chosen.

It was thereupon *Resolved*, that the next Assembly meet in the North [159] Presbyterian church, in the city of Buffalo, on the third Thursday of May, 1853, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Rev. Alfred T. Chester, D. D., Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock, Dr. Bristol, and Mr. Chauncey D. Cowles were appointed a Committee of Arrangements for the meeting.

The report on Church Extension, being the order of the day, was taken up for consideration.

The Rev. Timothy Stillman moved, that the first section of the report, referring to "Education for the Ministry," be adopted.

The discussion of this motion was interrupted, to hear a communication from the Rev. Jacob O. Miller, the Delegate from the German Reformed Church, to which the Moderator responded; when the Rev. Mr. Miller respectfully took his leave.

The discussion of the report on Church Extension was renewed, and con-

tinued until 6½ o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Closed with prayer.

Tuesday, May 25th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was devoted to religious exercises.

The calling of the Roll hereafter was dispensed with.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, from the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, presented his credentials, and his name was placed on the Roll of the Assembly.

The order of the day, viz., communications from Theological Seminaries, was deferred for the present, and the Assembly took up the unfinished business of yesterday, viz., the report on Church Extension; the question being on the adoption of the first section of the report.

Rev. Joseph A. Ranney moved to amend the first section of the report as follows:

"Strike out all after the first sub-section, and read as follows:

"2. It is earnestly recommended to each Presbytery to appoint yearly a Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry, whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and disbursement of funds, in such way as the Presbytery may direct.

"3. It is recommended to all our Presbyteries that they adopt one of the following plans as soon as it may be convenient:

"(1.) Let the Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry co-operate with the American Education Society, or some one of its branches, by paying into its treasury all funds collected, and, in return, asking aid for such young men as the Presbytery may have under its care. Or,

"(2.) Let the Committee on Education act independently of any education society, and raise and disburse all the funds of the Presbytery within its own bounds, in such way as the Presbytery may direct." [160]

The discussion was continued until 12 o'clock, when the Assembly took a recess of fifteen minutes.

After recess, the Committee on Bills and Overtures reported documents No. 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, being certain memorials on the subject of Church Extension, from the Presbyteries of Kingston, Holston, Des Moines, Wilmington, and Detroit; also, document No. 8, being a memorial on tracts and publications from the Synod of Tennessee; all of which memorials relate to subjects embraced in the report of the Committee on Church Extension. "These papers are expressive of the deep interest felt by these several bodies in the cause to which they relate; but as they contain no matters not embraced in the report of the Committee on Church Extension now before the Assembly, they hope that the object of the memorialists will by means thereof be obtained; and the Committee respectfully ask to be discharged from further action in reference to them.

Their report was accepted, and the request of the Committee was granted.

The discussion of the report on Church Extension was resumed.

The Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., a member of the Committee, and the Rev. John Patton, secretary of the Philadelphia Education Society, were permitted to make statements on the subject before the Assembly.

The discussion continued until 2 o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned until 4½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 25th, 4½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported four memorials on the subject of Slavery, from the Presbyteries of Athens, Fort Wayne, and Franklin, and from several individuals, desiring the General Assembly to take order on the subject of Slavery in the way suggested in their memorials.

These memorials ask of the Assembly:

"1. A further expression of opinion on the subject of Slavery.

"2. That it be enjoined on the lower judicatories to bring every case of slaveholding under examination for particular condemnation or vindication.

"3. That the several Synods be cited to appear before the next General Assembly, to answer charges which, it is alleged, common fame brings against them in connection with slavery.

"The Committee are of opinion:

"1. That the General Assembly has already so clearly and explicitly defined its views on this subject, that no further expression of opinion is demanded at the present time.

"2. That the demand for an injunction on the lower judicatories to [161] take action with respect to this subject is not in accordance with the provisions of our Constitution. (*Vide* Chap. on Review and Control.)

"3. That the several memorials which ask for this citation of the Synods should be referred to the Judicial Committee.

"In view of these reasons, the Committee ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject."

The report was adopted, and the Committee were discharged accordingly.

The unfinished business of the morning, the consideration of the report on Church Extension, was resumed—the question being on the amendment of Mr. Ranney.

The discussion was continued until the usual time for adjournment.

The Rev. Cyrus W. Wallace, the Delegate from the General Association of New Hampshire, and the Rev. A. Huntington Clapp, the Delegate from the General Convention of Vermont, after short valedictory addresses, to which the Moderator responded, respectfully took their leave.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 26th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Hon. William Jessup, LL. D., Elder, from the Presbytery of Montrose, presented his credentials, and his name was placed upon the Roll of the Assembly.

The reports of the Committees to examine Synodical Records were made the order of the day for Friday next, at 10 o'clock A. M.

A written communication was received from the Rev. John P. Cleaveland, D. D., the Delegate to this body from the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, stating the reasons of his unavoidable absence, and expressing the fellowship of the churches of that Consociation with those under the care of the Assembly.

The Assembly proceeded to hear statements in relation to the Theological

Seminaries within our bounds. The Rev. George F. Wiswell, agent, made a statement in reference to the Union Seminary, in the city of New York; the Rev. Thornton A. Mills, in reference to Lane Seminary; and the Rev. Nathaniel Hood, in reference to the Seminary at Maryville, Tenn.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz.: the consideration of the report on Church Extension, was resumed, the question being on the amendment proposed by Mr. Ranney.

The discussion continued until 2 o'clock P. M., when the Assembly adjourned until 4½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [162]

Wednesday, May 26th, 4½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave of absence had been given to Rev. William Wisner, D. D., Mr. Richard J. Knowlson, Rev. George Painter, Rev. John B. Hoyt, and Messrs. Richard G. Pardee, Edwin J. Whitney, John C. Halsey, M. D., Abraham Painter, and James Burr.

The Judicial Committee reported No. 2, a complaint of J. Henry Clark, M. D., and others, against the Synod of New York and New Jersey, as in order; and recommended that it be taken up and issued by the Assembly.

The report was put upon the docket.

The Judicial Committee also reported on two memorials relating to the subject of Slavery, transferred to them from the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

"The first, marked No. 1, in the report of that Committee, is from the Presbytery of Athens. It inquires, whether it will not be lawful for the General Assembly to call before them Synods and Presbyteries, which are alleged to be guilty of wrong-doing in the matter referred to. No. 4 is from the Presbytery of Franklin. It represents that the Synods of Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Virginia, Tennessee, and West Tennessee, are charged by 'common fame' with holding sentiments and countenancing practices on the subject of Slavery, in direct opposition to the repeated declarations of the General Assembly; and respectfully suggests, that the said Synods be cited to appear before the next Assembly, to answer upon the subject, according to the Book of Discipline, Chap. VII., sect. 1, articles 5 and 6.

"The Committee would suggest, that prosecutions on the ground of 'common fame,' even in the case of a single individual, ought, not only on principles of Christian charity, but according to an explicit injunction of the Book of Discipline, Chap. III., sect. 5, to be undertaken with 'great caution.' Much more, when the character of a Synod is concerned, or, as in the present case, of several Synods; and when the matter in question is one of peculiar delicacy and difficulty.

"It does not appear to the Committee, that there is any such 'common fame' in the premises as requires the interposition of the General Assembly; and they therefore recommend, that the action proposed by the memorials be not taken."

A motion was made that the report of the Committee be adopted.

The consideration of this motion was deferred for the present, and the report put upon the docket.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported No. 12, "A Memorial from the Trustees and Elders of Park Church, Newark, N. J.;" which was put upon the docket.

The unfinished business of the morning, the consideration of the report on

Church Extension, was resumed; the question being still on Mr. Ranney's amendment.

The discussion was continued until 6½ o'clock. [163]

Before the adjournment, the Committee on Mileage made the following report:

"There has been paid into the hands of the Committee, from fifty Presbyteries, the sum of $1,077.88; and apportionment has been made on 49,436 miles of travel in coming to the Assembly, at the rate of $2.18 for every 100 miles of travel, and in favor of 70 members, the whole number (from Presbyteries which have contributed to the Commissioners' Fund) who are understood to have applied for a portion of the Fund."

The report was adopted, and, in the absence of the Treasurer, the Committee on Mileage were authorized and directed to pay the Commissioners accordingly.

The Assembly then adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 27th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual time had been occupied with devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion of Rev. Henry A. Rowland, the complaint of members of the Park church, Newark, N. J., was made the order of the day, immediately after the disposal of the question before the house.

The unfinished business, the consideration of the report on Church Extension, was resumed; the question being still on Mr. Ranney's amendment.

The discussion continued until 12 o'clock, when, on motion of the Hon. William Darling, it was resolved, that the discussion be arrested, and the whole subject be committed to a special Committee, at a quarter before 1 o'clock this day.

The discussion continued until the appointed time; when the whole subject was referred to a special *Committee of twelve*, viz.: Rev. Messrs. Stephen Taylor, D. D., Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., Philemon H. Fowler, Asa D. Smith, D. D., George A. Lyon, D. D., Samuel W. Fisher, and Robert W. Patterson; with the Hon. Messrs. William Darling, William Jessup, LL.D., and John L. Mason; and Messrs. John Ogden and Horace Maynard.

The Rev. John J. Miter, the Delegate from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, after a short address, which was responded to by the Moderator, respectfully took his leave.

A written communication was received and read from the Rev. Joseph H. Jones, D. D., secretary of the "Corporation for the Relief of Presbyterian Ministers, and their Widows and Children," requesting of the Assembly the acceptance of a number of copies of an address on the subject.

Also, a similar communication from the Rev. Albert Barnes, on the same subject, commending to the attention of the members the objects of this corporation. [164]

Copies of the address were accordingly received and distributed to the members of the Assembly.

Took a recess for ten minutes.

After the recess, the Assembly took up the complaint of J. Henry Clark, M. D., Edward A. Crane, and other members of the Park church, Newark, N. J., against the Synod of New York and New Jersey.

The Moderator read the 39th Rule, reminding the Assembly of the solemn judicial business on which they were about to enter.

The Moderator, on the ground of his being a member of the Synod complained of, voluntarily relinquished the chair, while this case should be under consideration, to the Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., the Moderator of a former Assembly. Messrs. Edward A. Crane and Ellison Conger appeared on the part of the complainants.

The Assembly heard the decision complained of; then the reasons assigned for the complaint; then the whole record of the proceedings of the Synod in the case.

Before the reading of the documents was finished, the Assembly adjourned until 4½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 27th, 4½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and, in union with a large number of Christians who accepted the invitation to participate with them, united in the celebration of this ordinance in the order previously appointed.

After the Supper, the Assembly resumed business.

The Rev. Hiram P. Arms, the Delegate from the General Association of Connecticut; the Rev. Eber Carpenter, the Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts; and the Rev. Joseph Blake, the Delegate from the General Conference of Maine, severally made a short valedictory address, to which the Moderator appropriately responded, when they took their leave.

In view of the probability of a somewhat protracted session, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to the several railroad companies, who have kindly favored us with the privilege of coming hither at a greatly reduced rate of fare; and that we respectfully ask of them an extension of the time, in which our return tickets will be available.

After which, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 28th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual time had been occupied with devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [165]

The Rev. O. Ellsworth Daggett, the Delegate from the General Association of New York, took his leave of the Assembly, with expressions of kindness towards this body, which were reciprocated by the Moderator, in the name of the Assembly.

The Rev. Silas Hawley offered the following resolution, which was put upon the docket, viz.:

"*Resolved*, That, in the view of this Assembly, the Plan of Union of 1801 has been, and still is, in full force in the Presbyterian Church; that its pretended abrogation by the Assembly of 1837 was part and parcel of the exscinding acts; that as the said acts were unconstitutional, the Plan of Union was not in the least affected by them."

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave had been given to Rev. Timothy Stillman, Rev. William Whittaker, and Messrs. John C. Sterling, Henry White, M. D., Joel D. Gillett, William O. N. Perkins, and Revillo C. Hatch.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Assembly proceeded to hear the reports of Committees on Synodical Records; and, on the recommendation

of the respective Committees, the Records of the following Synods were approved, so far as written:

Albany, Utica, Geneva, Genesee, New York and New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Michigan, Western Reserve, Ohio, Cincinnati, Indiana, Illinois, Peoria, and Virginia.

The Records of the Synod of Missouri were approved, subject to the decision of a judicial case now pending.

The Synod of Wabash forwarded an attested copy of their Records, but the Assembly declined receiving them as a substitute for the Records themselves.

The Records of the Synods of Kentucky, Tennessee, West Tennessee, and Mississippi, not having been received, the Committees appointed to examine them were discharged.

One hundred copies of a volume, entitled "The Path of Life," by Rev. Henry A. Rowland, were presented to the members of the Assembly by the author; for which the thanks of the Assembly were unanimously rendered.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises presented a report, which was adopted, recommending the following supplies for the pulpits of the city and neighborhood, on the ensuing Sabbath, viz.:

First Presbyterian Church—Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. John N. Lewis, and Rev. George C. Curtis.

Second Presbyterian Church—Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., and Rev. Samuel W. Fisher.

F Street Presbyterian Church—Rev. George Duffield, D. D.

Fourth Presbyterian Church—Rev. Stephen Taylor, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson and Rev. Henry Darling.

Colored Presbyterian Church—Rev. Nathaniel Hood and Rev. Hercules R. Dunham.

Methodist Episcopal Church, South—Rev. Thomas Cleland, D. D., and Rev. J. Parsons Hovey.

Foundry (M. E.) Chapel—Rev. Simon S. Goss and Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D. [166]

McKendree (M. E.) Chapel—Rev. Hiram Wason and Rev. John G. Hall.

Wesley (M. E.) Chapel—Rev. James Shaw and Rev. Ebenezer G. Townsend.

Union (M. E.) Chapel—Rev. John B. Hoyt and Rev. Peter Lockwood.

Ryland (M. E.) Chapel—Rev. James Gallaher.

Asbury (M. E.) Colored Church—Rev. Samuel Y. Garrison and Rev. Henry Bergen.

Ninth Street (M. Prot.) Church—Rev. Thomas M. Hodgman, and Rev. H. Sneed McElroy.

St. Paul's (Lutheran) Church—Rev. Henry C. Abernethy and Rev. William W. Woods, M. D.

First Baptist Church—Rev. Albert T. Chester, D. D., and Rev. George Duffield, Jr.

E Street Baptist Church—Rev. Henry Kendall and Rev. William H. Cooper.

Shiloh Baptist Church, near Navy Yard—Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace.

First Congregational Church—Rev. William S. Franklin and Rev. Anson H. Parmelee.

First Presbyterian Church, Alexandria—Rev. James Harrison.

Second Presbyterian Church, Alexandria—Rev. Wells Andrews, Rev. William E. Knox, and Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D.

First Presbyterian Church, Georgetown—Rev. Philemon H. Fowler.

Fifth Presbyterian Church, Baltimore—Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.

Hon. William Jessup, LL.D., was added to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The unfinished business of yesterday, viz., the complaint of members of the Park church, Newark, N. J., against the Synod of New York and New Jersey, was resumed.

The reading of the documents was continued and completed.

At this stage it was moved by Hon. William Jessup, LL.D., that the proceedings be dismissed, on the ground that the action of the Presbytery was not a proper subject-matter of complaint, or removal of the case to a higher judicatory; their proceedings having been merely advisory upon the memorial of the complainants.

Pending the discussion of this motion, the Assembly adjourned until 4½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 28th, 4½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the complaint of certain members of the Park church, Newark, N. J., was resumed; the question being on the motion of Judge Jessup to dismiss the case.

After much discussion, the question was put and carried, and the case was accordingly dismissed.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures made the following report, [167] which was adopted, in reference to the "Corporation for the Relief of Poor and Distressed Ministers of the Presbyterian Church," (whose office is in Philadelphia, and of which corporation, A. W. Mitchell is president; John K. Kane, Albert Barnes, J. B. Mitchell, Joseph Jones, Robert Patterson, committee; and Robert Patterson, treasurer:)

"*Whereas* this corporation, organized long ago, under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church, for the purpose of securing to aged ministers, and to the families of deceased ministers, a moderate provision against want, is prepared at the present time to enter into all those contracts depending on the duration of human life, which form the business of life-annuity and life-insurance companies: and *whereas* it appears, that this corporation has a considerable fund beyond the value of all its liabilities; that its expenses are very inconsiderable; that, having no stockholders among whom to make a dividend of profits, it can have no object in acquiring profit, but that, on the contrary, it seeks to give a full equivalent for all that it receives; that its engagements, therefore, are not only more secure, but also more liberal, than those of companies generally: and *whereas*, among the contracts which it especially invites, there are several by which a congregation, or a few of its members, can, without a large expenditure, provide for the necessities of their pastor in his old age, and for the family he may leave behind him; or, by a reasonably increased investment, may secure similar benefits to all its successive pastors and their families: and *whereas* it is important that the attention of those concerned should be especially called to this important subject: Therefore,

"*Resolved*, That we regard the plans of this corporation as eminently worthy of the consideration of the ministers and churches within our bounds."

It was made the order of the day for 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, to

take up the second section of the report on Church Extension, viz., that referring to "Home Missions."

The Assembly proceeded to take up the judicial case which had been put upon the docket, viz., the complaint of Franklin Knox against the Synod of Missouri.

The Moderator read the usual Rule, respecting the entering upon judicial business, and enjoined upon the Assembly a solemn attention to the matter in hand.

The decision complained of and the complaint were read; when the reading was interrupted, for the purpose of hearing a report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 9, in reference to the Commissioners' and Contingent Funds of the Assembly, which was put upon the docket.

After which, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M. Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 29th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual time had been occupied with devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported the following persons [168] as excused from further attendance on the Assembly, viz.: Rev. William H. Cooper, Rev. Courtney Smith, Rev. Leonard B. Van Dyck, Rev. A. Cogswell Frissell, Rev. Elijah W. Plumb, Rev. Beriah B. Hotchkin, Rev. Conway P. Wing; and Messrs. Alfred Cobb, James H. Hotchkin, Henry L. Young, Hon. Lawrence Hull, M. D., Samuel P. Smith, Marcus Wilbur, Charles Starr, Jr., Harvey D. Smith, Barzillai Jewett, J. Marshall Paul, M. D., and Henry C. Knight.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported papers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, with resolutions; which were put upon the docket.

No. 1, in reference to Statistical Reports, was taken up, and the following resolution was passed:

"*Resolved*, That the Stated Clerk be, and he is hereby, instructed to prepare such a table as may embrace, if practicable, all the funds collected for religious purposes, whether expended at home or abroad; and that the Moderator, and Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., be appointed a Committee to advise and aid the Stated Clerk in carrying out this arrangement."

The Assembly proceeded, agreeably to previous order, to take up for consideration the second section of the report on Church Extension, referring to "Home Missions."

Rev. Samuel W. Fisher moved the adoption of this section of the report.

The discussion continued until 12 o'clock, when the Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 13, "On Religious Liberty," accompanied with a resolution. It was put upon the docket.

The Committee appointed to nominate the preacher of the next annual sermon on Home Missions, nominated the Rev. Robert W. Patterson, of the Presbytery of Chicago, as principal, and the Rev. Henry Mandeville, D. D., of the Presbytery of Albany, as alternate. The nomination was accepted, and these persons were accordingly appointed.

The Committee, appointed in reference to the block for the Washington Monument, made the following report, which was approved:

"Your Committee collected the sum of $161; and have contracted with Mr. Doherty, who superintends the building of the Washington Monument,

to place the specified inscription, and that of an open Bible, on a slab of stone that will be neat, plain, and suitable, and will cost only $100. The remainder of the money contributed will be considered as a donation from the members of the General Assembly to the common fund for the erection of this great work."

The Committee further reported that, on Monday morning next, a certificate would be furnished each member of the Assembly, as a memento that he is among those whose noble patriotism is erecting this great work to the memory of the Father of his Country.

Took a recess for ten minutes.

After the recess, the consideration of the report on Church Extension was resumed. The Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., of the Presbytery of St. Louis, one of the Committee on Church Extension, was permitted to make statements on the subject before the house.

The discussion continued until 2 o'clock P. M.; when, without taking the question, the Assembly adjourned until Monday next, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [169]

Monday, May 31st, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met. The Moderator, Rev. William Adams, D. D., having obtained leave of absence, the Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., the last Moderator present, was called to preside, and opened the meeting with prayer.

The usual time was occupied with devotional exercises. After which, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been given to Rev. Amasa Converse, D. D., Rev. Simon S. Goss, Rev. John B. Hoyt, Rev. Henry A. Rowland; and Messrs. Gabriel Tichenor, Hon. Daniel Hewson, Joel Forgey, Edward Huntting, Stephen P. Morehouse, John C. Maxwell, M. D., Gilbert D. Phillips, Charles Paul, William Elder, Sidney Avery, James W. Weir, and Hon. John L. Mason.

It was *Resolved*, that the discussion on the second section of the report on Church Extension terminate at a quarter before 12 o'clock this day; and that no member be allowed to speak on the subject more than ten minutes.

The unfinished business of Saturday was then resumed, viz., the consideration of the second section of the report on Church Extension; the question being on Mr. Fisher's motion to adopt the recommendations of the Committee.

Mr. Jacob Gideon moved to amend, by striking out the first article, recommending the American Home Missionary Society, &c.

Rev. Albert T. Chester, D. D., moved a postponement of Mr. Gideon's motion, to take up the following substitute:

"*Resolved*, That each Presbytery within the bounds of the Assembly be directed to examine and appoint all missionaries to labor among their respective churches, whether as stated supplies or pastors, and report to each Assembly their full proceedings on this subject.

"*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to communicate this resolution to the American Home Missionary Society, to have such conference and make such explanations as may be necessary."

The Rev. John G. Hall moved the indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

The discussion was continued until a quarter before 12 o'clock; when Mr. Hall asked and obtained leave to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Jacob Gideon then moved to lay the whole subject on the table. The Moderator pronounced the motion out of order, as unknown to our Book. An appeal was taken from this decision, and the Moderator was sustained.

The discussion was here interrupted, to hear the report of the Committee of twelve appointed on the first section of the report on Church Extension.

The Committee made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

"In order successfully to awaken the interest, and call forth the energies of the whole Church, in supplying an adequate ministry, the General Assembly adopt the following arrangement:

"1. It is recommended, in behalf of those Presbyteries and churches that may desire a new and more extended channel of co-operation in [170] reference to this subject, that an Education Society be formed, by those interested in the object, at, or immediately after, the final adjournment of this Assembly, to be called the 'Western Education Society;' that this Society arrange its meetings at the same time and place with the meetings of the Assembly, and permit the members of each Assembly, *ex officio*, to act as members of the Society at its annual meeting; and that the Executive Committee and Secretary of the Society be located at Cincinnati.

"2. It is hereby recommended to each of the Presbyteries, as soon as may be convenient, and from year to year thereafter, to make suitable provision for the presentation to all its congregations of the wants of our Church, our country, and the world, in relation to this subject; and for pressing upon young men their duty in reference to the ministry; upon Christian parents their obligations to dedicate their children to this work, and train them for it; and upon individual churches their privilege and duty to seek out and sustain, through a course of preparation, such promising young men as would not otherwise enter the ministry; and to see that in each church an annual contribution is made to aid in this work.

"3. It is further recommended, that each Presbytery appoint yearly a Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry, who shall take charge of the funds collected in its churches, and disburse them as shall be directed. And it is recommended, that each Presbytery, as far as practicable, exercise a special supervision over all its young men who are studying with a view to the ministry. But this article shall not be so construed as in anywise to interfere with the choice of any Presbyteries, or churches, that may prefer to co-operate directly with the various Education Societies.

"4. It is requested of each Presbytery to forward to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, by the 15th of April, every year, a full report of its proceedings on this subject; stating the number of churches to which this cause has been presented, the amount of funds collected and appropriated, the number of candidates under its care, and the different stages of their progress. And it shall be the duty of the Stated Clerk to report the same to the General Assembly.

"5. It is also hereby requested, of each of the Education Societies with which any of our Presbyteries or churches may co-operate, to furnish a like report to the Assembly every year, so far as its operations relate to our Church. And it is hereby recommended to the Societies with which our churches are connected, to adopt a plan of operation and correspondence which will make them mutual helps in advancing their cause.

"6. It is further requested, of the Directors or Trustees of the Union Seminary, New York, the Auburn Seminary, Lane Seminary, and the Seminaries at Hudson, Ohio, and Maryville, Tenn., to present to every General Assembly a concise report of their condition, the number of their students, the names of the Faculty, the ordinary yearly expenses, and any other infor-

mation that may be deemed interesting. The Stated Clerk is hereby directed to forward this request to each of the institutions which have been named, at an early day.

"7. It is earnestly recommended to all the ministers and churches [171] under our care, to observe the last Thursday of February of every year, as a day of special prayer in behalf of our Literary and Theological Institutions, and of the young men connected with all our churches and congregations."

Took a recess for ten minutes.

After the recess, the unfinished business was resumed, viz.: the consideration of the second section of the report on Church Extension.

Rev. Albert T. Chester, D. D., asked and obtained leave to withdraw his motion for postponement.

Mr. Jacob Gideon's motion was then put and lost.

The question now came up on the original motion of Mr. Fisher, to adopt the recommendations contained in the second section of the report.

These recommendations, after several amendments, were adopted, and are as follows:

"To promote more extensively the work of Domestic Missions, the General Assembly hereby adopts the following arrangement:

"1. The American Home Missionary Society is hereby recommended to the Presbyteries as the agency through which, as heretofore, the work of Domestic Missions shall be done; and the Presbyteries and Synods are requested to adopt, as far as they may deem proper in their circumstances, the following or similar arrangements:

"2. Each Presbytery shall elect a Standing Committee on Church Extension, to serve one year, and continue in office till successors are appointed, who shall under its direction attend to the general interests of this work within its bounds.

"3. Each Presbytery shall see that, by its own ministers or other suitable agency, the claims of Home Missions shall be presented annually to each of its churches, and that proper efforts are made to bring their liberality into free and becoming exercise toward this cause. These contributions to be paid into the Treasury of the American Home Missionary Society, or any of its auxiliaries, and to be raised with as little expense to that Society as possible.

"4. Each Presbytery shall recommend all applications for aid from any of its churches; and shall be careful to see that the amount asked for is the lowest which will fairly answer the purpose. And it is recommended, that the appropriations sought be diminished from year to year, if it can be safely done, that the churches may be brought to a self-sustaining standard as soon as possible.

"5. The American Home Missionary Society is hereby requested to arrange its system of appropriations, so that applications made by any Presbytery for its churches shall not require the official sanction of any agent of that Society. It is not intended, however, by this recommendation, to abridge the right of the Society to obtain information as to such applications, or use its full discretion as to granting them in whole or in part.

"6. Each Presbytery whose circumstances as to territory, churches, and numbers demand it, is recommended to appoint an itinerant missionary within its bounds. Or each Synod, where it is best that two, or more, or all of its Presbyteries shall be united in this work, is recommended to [172] appoint such a missionary, whose duty it shall be to act as a traveling

evangelist, after the scriptural pattern, to explore destitute fields; to prepare the way for the formation of new churches by the Presbyteries; to seek for ministers to take charge of them; to assist and direct in building houses of worship in destitute places; and in all other suitable ways, under the direction of Presbyterial or Synodical Committees, promote the work of Church Extension.

"7. Each Synod shall appoint yearly a Church Extension Committee, whose duty it shall be to take the supervision of any agencies which shall be established, to arrange and carry out some plan to aid in the erection of churches in destitute places, to conduct the Home Missionary business of the Synod generally, and make a full report at each meeting.

"8. Each Synod shall require a yearly collection from its churches, to assist, by loan or gift, feeble churches to erect houses of worship in destitute places; which funds shall be distributed by the Synod's Committee among those churches which may apply for it, according to their necessities. And the older and abler Synods of the Church are earnestly recommended to contribute of their abundance to aid the feebler Synods in this work.

"9. Each Synod is hereby charged with the review of the course of its Presbyteries in the duties now assigned them; and is further required to report to the General Assembly, through its Standing Committee, its proceedings up to the first of April in each year.

"10. Each Presbytery is further required, in addition to its Statistical Report and Narrative, to forward yearly to the General Assembly a full report of its various arrangements for Church Extension, stating the number of its ministers, and the particular manner in which they are employed; the number of its churches, and how they are supplied; the gross amount of funds collected in its bounds for Home Missions and church erection; the amount received by its churches from the American Home Missionary Society, or any similar institution; the number of houses of worship, with their probable value, and whether they are free from debt; the number of new churches organized, and new houses of worship erected; what itinerant arrangements have been adopted for preaching the Gospel; what and how much agency has been employed; together with all such other facts and suggestions as will show from year to year what has been accomplished, and what may need to be undertaken to bring all the churches to a proper degree of effort to promote the kingdom of Christ.

"11. The Stated Clerk is required, in due time previous to the meeting of each General Assembly, to notify the Stated Clerks of the Synods and Presbyteries, by a circular letter, of the foregoing requirement as to reports.

"12. There shall hereafter be appointed, with the other Standing Committees of the General Assembly, one on Church Extension, to whom shall be committed, at an early period of their sessions, the Synodical and Presbyterial reports on the subject, whose duty it shall be to present a condensed view of them to the Assembly, with such further propositions to promote this work as they may deem desirable. This Standing Committee shall be required to report as soon as a faithful discharge of its duties will permit. [173]

"13. A *Committee* consisting *of five*, is hereby appointed *to confer with the* Executive Committee of the *American Home Missionary Society*, expressing to it the kind feelings and confidence of the General Assembly and the churches it represents, and requesting its co-operation in this plan as far as its principles will admit; and also requesting a statement of the principles on which its appropriations are made to the churches of the several denominations of Christians who support it; the results of which conference shall be reported to the next General Assembly."

The Rev. George Duffield, D. D., Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, and Hon. Daniel Haines, were appointed a *Committee to nominate* the Committee of five contemplated in the 13th article; and on the nomination of the Committee the following persons were appointed, viz.: Rev. George Duffield, D. D., Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. Thornton A. Mills, Rev. Robert W. Patterson, and Hon. John L. Mason.

It was made the order of the day for this afternoon at 5 o'clock to hear the report of the Committee on the Narrative.

The Assembly then adjourned until 4½ o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 31st, 4½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly then resumed the consideration of the complaint of Franklin Knox against the Synod of Missouri.

The Rev. Samuel J. M. Beebee, at the request of the complainant, was permitted to act as his representative in the case.

The Rev. George Duffield, D. D., offered the following resolution:

"*Whereas*, it appears that the decision of the Synod of Missouri, in the case of the complaint of Franklin Knox, has been recorded in resolutions which set forth, not the reasons for the decision in the case, but which are in fact a compromise; which also admit, that at most there is a strong presumption of guilt, but not evidence agreeably to the Constitution sufficient to convict; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That the complaint of Franklin Knox against the Synod of Missouri be referred back to the lower judicatory, and that the Synod be and hereby is instructed to reconsider said resolutions, and record their decision agreeably to the evidence and the principles of justice recognized in our Constitution."

The hour having arrived for hearing the report of the Committee on the Narrative, the business was suspended, and

The Narrative was then read by the Rev. Samuel W. Fisher. After which, it was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

A written communication was received from the Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., chairman of a Committee appointed by the last Assembly on Correspondence with the American Board, relative to the erection of Presbyteries in foreign lands; whereupon the whole subject was recommitted [174] to the same Committee, with the addition of the Stated Clerk and the Rev. James W. McLane.

On motion of the Hon. William Jessup, LL.D., the subject of the *Funds of the General Assembly* was referred to the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Hon William Jessup, LL.D., Hon. William Darling, and Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., with discretionary power to take such action in relation thereto as may be deemed advisable; and that they report to the next General Assembly.

The Committee appointed by the last Assembly to take into consideration the employment of the periodical press, made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

"The Committee appointed by the last Assembly to take into consideration the employment of the press for the promotion of the cause of Christ, by means of our denomination, beg leave to report:

"That immediately after the adjournment of the last Assembly, they

instituted a correspondence with the 'Committee on Church Extension,' to whom had been committed several matters connected with the press, and with whom it was arranged that the Committee who now report should limit their inquiries to matters connected with the periodical press.

"It was deemed of great importance to the interests of our branch of the Church, that some arrangements should be made, if possible, whereby the Assembly might secure the publication of a weekly religious paper, devoted to the interests and views of our denomination. Application was made to several individuals who were interested in the subject, and frequent conferences held with them, in reference to the purchase of one of the most popular of these periodicals, which, it was understood, was offered for sale. But these efforts proved unavailing.

"A conference was then held with the proprietor of the *New York Evangelist and New York Presbyterian*, who made representations of his readiness so to conduct his long-established and valuable paper, as to secure the object had in view in the appointment of your Committee. To the suggestion made by the Committee, that the paper should be put under the general editorial supervision of three of the most capable ministers in our connection in New York and its vicinity, he cheerfully assented, and made liberal proposals to the individuals whom your Committee took the liberty to nominate; one only of whom felt himself free to accept the office. The arrangement has not, therefore, been perfected. But it is understood that the respected proprietor is still desirous so to conduct his paper as to subserve, in every practicable manner, the general interests of the denomination.

"Your Committee are happy to learn, and to call the attention of the Assembly to the fact, that, since the meeting of the last General Assembly, several influential individuals, in the city of Philadelphia and neighborhood, have made arrangements for the publication of a quarterly, to be called '*The Presbyterian Quarterly Review*,' under the editorial supervision and control of several of the most distinguished ministers in our connection, and that the first number has already issued from the press. In the full confidence that this quarterly will be true to the principles of our branch of the Church, the Committee take pleasure in commending [175] it to the approbation of this General Assembly, and the patronage of our ministers and churches."

The Delegate to the last Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin presented a bill of traveling expenses, amounting to $15, which was allowed and ordered to be paid. The expenses also of the Rev. Ransom Hawley, one of the Delegates to the last General Association of Connecticut, were ordered to be paid when his bill shall be presented.

The bill of Gideon & Co., for printing, amounting to $6; the bill of Austin Gray, for stationery, $7.27; of Kirkwood & Gill, for printing, $1; the janitor's bill of $14; and the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were severally ordered to be paid.

On motion of Mr. Horace Maynard, the consideration of the third section of the report on Church Extension was made the order of the day for this evening, at 8 o'clock.

On motion of the Hon. William Darling, the thanks of the Assembly were tendered to the citizens of Washington, and the families of different religious denominations, who have extended their kind and cordial hospitality to the Commissioners and others in attendance, and have contributed to make their stay in this city so peculiarly pleasant; with the assurance that it is our fervent prayer that the blessing of God, in connection with this meeting, may rest upon them.

The thanks of the Assembly were tendered also to the Rev. John C. Smith, and other members of the Committee of Arrangements, for their efforts to enable us to reach the city and to return to our respective homes comfortably and economically, and to minister to our comfort while here.

Thanks were also tendered to the Trustees of the Fourth Presbyterian church of this city, for the accommodation extended to the Assembly, during their present sessions; and also to the choir of the Fourth Presbyterian church, for their very agreeable assistance in our worship.

Thanks, also, were tendered to the Moderator, the Rev. William Adams, D. D., for his able, dignified, and impartial discharge of the duties of his office.

Adjourned until 8 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 31st, 8 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to consider the third section of the report on Church Extension, viz., in relation to "Doctrinal Tracts."

The report was read, and, having been amended and the blanks filled, it was adopted, and is as follows:

"To promote the diffusion of those truths which distinguish us as a Church, the General Assembly adopts the following arrangement:

"1. There is hereby established at Philadelphia a Standing Committee of nine persons, whose duty it shall be to superintend the publication of a series of tracts explanatory of the doctrines, government, and missionary [176] policy of the Presbyterian Church, as the General Assembly shall from time to time direct. One third of this Committee shall serve for one year, one third for two years, and the remaining third for three years. The election, to fill the places of those whose terms expire, to be held at each meeting of the General Assembly.

"2. This Committee shall elect a Secretary and Treasurer, the former of whom shall receive such a salary per annum, as shall be agreed upon by the Committee; and shall be the editor of the tracts published; and also, as far as may be necessary, the soliciting agent for such an amount of funds as may be required to carry out the objects for which this Committee is appointed.

"3. It shall be the duty of this Committee to meet at Philadelphia, and, after due organization, to take measures to procure the preparation and publication, in cheap, neat, and substantial form, of a series of tracts for the purposes above stated. No tract to be published, which does not receive the unanimous approbation of the Committee.

"4. This Committee shall, if consistent with the interests of the Assembly, enter into a contract with some publisher or publishers to assume, for a time, the publication of such tracts as may be furnished them, at certain rates, which shall be agreed upon in writing. And if no such arrangement can be profitably and satisfactorily made, then the said Committee shall, by solicitation from the churches, proceed to provide a sufficient fund for their publication in behalf of the Assembly.

"5. This Committee shall make a full report of its proceedings to the General Assembly, at each annual meeting."

The following persons were appointed the *Committee to superintend the preparation and publication of Doctrinal Tracts*, viz.: Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Albert Barnes, and Mr. S. T. Bodine, for one year; Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D., Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., and Rev. George Duffield, Jr.,

for two years; Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., and Hon. William Darling, for three years.

Resolved, That the Committee have power to fill their own vacancies.

Resolved, That at least 1,500 copies of the Minutes of this Assembly, with the usual Appendix, be published, under the direction of the Stated Clerk; and that a copy be forwarded, post-paid, to the Stated Clerks of the several Synods and Presbyteries.

The resolution on the docket, in reference to the Plan of Union of 1801, was taken up and adopted. See page 165.*

The report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church was taken up for consideration.

The following Overture from the Presbytery of New York, Third, was then adopted:

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the General Assembly, in order to ascertain the full number of individuals in the Church who are preparing for the ministry, to require of every session to state, in their annual report to their Presbytery, how many of the communicants under their care are pursuing a course of study for the Gospel ministry; and that every Presbytery be required to report the whole number of these students, thus ascertained, among their churches, in their annual statement to the General Assembly, instead of reporting, as heretofore, only [177] those who have formally been received under the care of the Presbytery."

No. 3, an Overture on a case of discipline, was taken up, and is as follows:

"Suppose a member of the church is on trial, and his accuser is 'common fame.' One specification against him is, 'Speaking evil of his brethren, A and B, while he neglects to take any gospel steps to bring them to repentance or to trial.'

"The specification is abundantly sustained by testimony; but the person on trial proposes to introduce testimony to prove that the reports which he circulated, and the opinions which he pronounced derogatory to the brethren named, were true. Has the accused a right to introduce such testimony, tending to injure the character of parties not on trial, nor connected at all with the prosecution, and having no opportunity for defence?

"Would the session be authorized to reject such testimony, on the ground that, if introduced, it would not exculpate the accused, inasmuch as he had no right to circulate evil reports against his brethren, whether true or false, while neglecting to bring them on trial?"

To this the following answer was given:

"The person on trial, under charges tabled on the ground of 'common fame,' has no right to introduce testimony which inculpates his brethren who are not on trial, and who have no opportunity to defend themselves, because it was his previous duty to take proper steps, if the persons were guilty of the evils which he had alleged against them, to bring them to repentance, or free the church from the scandal."

Paper No. 4 was taken up, and the action recommended by the Committee on the Polity of the Church was not adopted.

Paper No. 5, an Overture from the Presbytery of Pennsylvania, asking "whether the Constitution of our Church shall be so altered as to make the term of office of ruling elders temporary, in such churches as prefer it," was taken up, and answered as follows:

"The Assembly do not deem it expedient, or for the edification of the Church, to send down to the Presbyteries such an Overture; the most obvious and natural construction of our Form of Government does not con-

* Page 336 of the reprint.

template a rotatory eldership; and while such an organization of a session is not anti-presbyterial, yet the Assembly would discourage the adoption of the principle in our Church, from respect to the plain meaning of our rule. But nothing in this resolution is intended to disturb the relations of those churches, which have adopted the principle of a limited period in the service of elders."

The consideration of the complaint of Franklin Knox against the Synod of Missouri was resumed, the question being on the adoption of the Rev. Dr. Duffield's motion to remit the case to the Synod. See page 173.

The motion was adopted, and the case was referred back to the Synod of Missouri.

The Assembly resolved not to proceed to the election of Directors of the Theological Seminaries for the present year.

Overture No. 13, on "Religious Liberty," was taken up, and referred to Rev. Drs. Nathan S. S. Beman, William Adams, and Henry Mandeville, with the Hon. Messrs. William Jessup, LL.D., and William Darling [178] to prepare and publish a proper exhibition of our sentiments on this subject, to be sent forth in the name of this body.

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, relating to the subject of Mileage and the Commissioners' and Contingent Funds, be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes of this Assembly, and the Presbyteries be requested to consider the plan there proposed, and to take such action upon it as they shall think proper.

The report of the Judicial Committee relative to two memorials on the subject of Slavery was taken from the docket, and the whole subject, on motion of Rev. Lucian C. Ford, was indefinitely postponed.

The Minutes of the session were read and approved.

Thanks were tendered to the Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., the acting Moderator, for the manner in which he has conducted the business of the Assembly.

The Roll was called, and the absentees marked.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for the dissolving of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved; and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the North Presbyterian church, in the city of Buffalo, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1853, at 11 o'clock A. M.

E. W. GILBERT, *Permanent Clerk.*

Washington, May 31st, 1852.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1852.

The Committee on the Narrative, in presenting their report to the General Assembly, would congratulate this body on the increased attention which, in accordance with the suggestion of the last Assembly, the Presbyteries have given to the preparation of their Narratives. This fact, while it denotes the more vigorous working of our own ecclesiastical organizations, at the same time has greatly facilitated the labors of your Committee in the presentation of the general condition of our branch of the Church. Indeed, our chief difficulty arises, not from the paucity, but the abundance, of the materials

before us, and from the impossibility of reducing such various statements to a consistent whole, that, in the moderate limits assigned to us, shall do justice to each separate part. Our Church, like our country, is so widely extended, and the Presbyteries differ so greatly in position and numbers, as to render it difficult, by any general statements, to convey a clear idea of its condition in all respects. There are some things, however, which either broadly characterize our churches, or are of especial moment to our whole communion, to which we would call attention.

CHURCH ERECTION.

Among these, it is an interesting fact, that almost every Presbytery reports the erection of one or more edifices for public worship, the remodeling and improvement of others, and the successful effort in a large number of cases to remove the burden of a church debt. The erection of new houses of worship in our growing cities and towns, and especially in the newer portions of our territory, is essential to the permanent progress of religion. And it is highly gratifying to perceive that an awakened interest is felt on this subject, and that many parts of the Church are increasingly solicitous that the Assembly should adopt some measures, by which the work of church-building in the destitute frontier settlements should be carried forward systematically and easily. The renewed and successful efforts, in many cases, to relieve the churches of debt, is a very encouraging sign of our advancement. Few things weigh more heavily on the pastor, and tend more powerfully to retard the development of religion, than these church debts. They have not only prevented the growth of many churches, but frequently broken up some of the most promising enterprises for the spread of religion. In this connection it is worthy of notice, as a sign of our advancement, and of the temporal prosperity of the congregations connected with us, that a large number of church edifices have during the year been remodeled and improved, while in other cases parsonages have been erected, and the entire temporal condition of the church placed on an independent foundation. While we may not commend extravagant outlays upon the material edifice, yet a truly healthful religious sentiment will always see to it, that, as the public prosperity advances, and the members of Christ's Church come to dwell in ceiled houses, the house of God should not be left desolate.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

There is no department of Christian labor more vital to the prosperity of religion than the religious instruction of the young. These constitute the chief material for the future upbuilding of the Church; and if they receive that attention which the importance of the case demands, we have every reason for anticipating from this source a constant increase of the members of Christ's fold. Especially, since, in many instances, education of a public kind is becoming wholly disconnected from religion, and literature and science are divorced from the Bible, does it become a subject of great importance to see that effective measures are taken, in every congregation, for the instruction of the children and youth in the right ways of the Lord. Nor would it be without reason, were this Assembly to urge upon such of the ministers of our Church, as have the requisite qualifications for it, the preparation of works on the evidences of Christianity, suitable to the young, and as guides to the teachers of Bible-classes and Sabbath-schools. We are happy to perceive that, while in no case is there a reported decline of interest in this cause, in the great majority of the Presbyteries there never has been

so much attention given to this subject. Larger numbers are reported in attendance on the Sabbath-schools and Bible-classes, while there is very gratifying evidence of increased attention to the catechising of the children, and their thorough instruction in the doctrines of our standards. In addition to this, in many especially of the newer States, we find an increased attention to the interests of education in general, and the institution of both male and female seminaries of learning. The Presbyterian Church has ever been foremost in seeking to educate the people; and while other denominations, who formerly neglected it, are now convinced of its importance, and are coming up to the work, it is a matter of congratulation that the ministers and intelligent laymen of our own Church are endeavoring to illustrate, in this respect, our ancient spirit, and maintain the principles which we have always professed. Let us be true to ourselves in reference to the young, and we need have little fear respecting the final triumph of the great anti-Christian apostasy, whether in the form of Puseyism or Popery.

TEMPERANCE.

In most sections of the country, the Presbyteries report, not so much a great decline in intemperance, as a great increase of interest in the subject of temperance, and a determination on the part of multitudes to avail themselves of all wise legal measures to arrest the progress of this desolating evil. Many are waiting to see what will be the effect of measures now in operation in one of the Eastern States, in order to urge the trial of a successful experiment in other States. The passage of the "Maine Law," and its maintenance thus far, have revived the hopes of millions, and roused them to new efforts in this good cause. Rarely ever have we seen a more striking illustration of the power of moral influence, which a State, not among the central or the most populous, can exert, in promoting the spread of sound principles throughout the community. It seems to us most probable that, in connection with the religious and moral feeling that now opposes this evil, there will be some form of public legislation that will harmonize with it, to remove this fearful curse entirely from us as a nation.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

It is also gratifying to notice that, amidst the dark pictures which many of the Narratives give of the desecration of the holy Sabbath, there are signs of a decided improvement in this respect. The running of cars and steamboats on the Sabbath, while still most sadly prevalent, is yet on the decrease, and a more healthful public sentiment is being formed, which we trust will soon compel the entire cessation of these and all other forms of Sabbath desecration.

PECUNIARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Narratives inform us, not only of the usual attention to the benevolent causes of the day on the part of most of the churches, but in not a few of them of a decided increase in their contributions. It is much to be regretted that we have no full statistical reports on these subjects, in order to determine with greater certainty the advance of our churches from year to year, and furnish a just ground of encouragement and hope for the future. We believe that as a Church we are behind no other denomination in our land in our contributions to the cause of Christ; and we shall rejoice to see our position in this respect made fully manifest by accurate statistical reports.

REVIVALS OF RELIGION.

But, amidst all the evidences of growth and progress, none are so cheering to the Christian heart, or so vital to our permanent prosperity, as the manifest presence of the Holy Spirit in renewing power. From every part of the field of our labors, we hear reports of either gentle refreshings or powerful revivals. With only here and there an exception, some one or more of the churches in each Presbytery have enjoyed the special influences of the Holy Spirit; while in many cases large additions have been made to the membership of the churches. If indeed we cannot speak of the year past as, in every respect, one of the right hand of the Most High, yet it would be ungrateful for us not to recognize the signal favors which He has thus bestowed on hundreds of churches. Weak congregations, and some just ready to die, have, in several instances, been made strong and placed, within a few weeks, in a position of independence of foreign aid; while the energies of many of those already vigorous have been more fully developed. In connection with these visitations of mercy, we are permitted to report the steady growth of an attachment to the doctrines and polity of our Church, together with an increasing desire that, as a denomination, we should attempt greater things than we have yet done to promote this form of piety in the world. At the same time, in some parts of the country, where various errors have been rife and have sought to divide the churches from us and from each other, there has been a decided triumph of truth and righteousness, so that a greater peace and harmony have been secured.

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES.

The Theological Seminaries, in more immediate connection with our Church, are generally in a prosperous condition. The faculties of all these seminaries are now well filled by men of acknowledged ability, learning and piety. An effort is now being made to endow the Union Theological Seminary in the city of New York, and place it on an independent foundation. No more noble or worthy object of an enlightened Christian benevolence, nor one that looks to larger results, can well be presented to those members of our Church to whom God has intrusted the stewardship of large possessions. While, however, the temporal prosperity of these institutions is thus in a fair way of being secured, it is a painful fact that the number of theological students has of late years diminished, rather than increased. It is obvious that we need, as a Church, more efficient means of arousing the attention of our pious young men to the work of the ministry, and of raising funds in sufficient abundance to insure, to those who are poor, an ample support during their preparation for the ministry. Unless the number of our ministers shall be speedily increased, it will be impossible for us to occupy the fields which now open so promisingly on every side, and into which the God of the harvest bids us enter.

HARVEST FIELDS.

There are at this time, aside from the ground already occupied, three fields of great promise which invite our labors.

I. The Colored People.

First. The colored population present claims upon us, in common with other denominations, to bring to them the gospel of the grace of God. We are most happy to notice, in the reports of the Southern Presbyteries, not only that much attention is given to this class of people, but that extensive revivals have occurred among them, and many conversions have taken place.

It is obvious, however, that we are not accomplishing all that our position and resources warrant us in doing in this field. And it is worthy of our consideration, whether it might not be expedient to train up colored ministers with special reference to this class of the people, who, while they might not have advanced as far as many others in the acquisition of theological science, may yet possess sufficient for the successful prosecution of their great work in this field.

II. The Immigrants.

Second. The foreign population, arriving upon our shores at the rate of between three and four hundred thousand a year, demand of us, as Christians, direct efforts to enlighten and save them. A few of these are truly evangelical; and with these we rejoice to sympathize and co-operate. But the mass are either apostate in Rome, or apostate from the doctrines of Luther. And it is necessary that, instead of merely seeking to give life to the present church organizations among them, we should also seek to form churches of our denomination among them, and by associating them with us, enable those who may be converted to stand more securely against the formalism and the infidelity which prevail so extensively among the multitude. The reports from the Presbyteries show a good beginning in this great work. Churches have been formed in New York City, Newark, N. J., Milwaukee, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and various other places, in connection with us; and there is every prospect of a large accession to our numbers from this quarter, in the course of a few years. Let us gird up our loins to this work, and we shall find a field already white to the harvest.

III. The New Settlements.

Third. Our new territories and frontier settlements demand of us as a Church, special efforts to plant churches and sustain missionaries. In these new regions, and wherever there is a large but scattered population, it is highly desirable that there should be itinerant or Presbyterial missionaries, who, under the direction of their own ecclesiastical bodies, should explore the field, gather the elements of churches, and preach as opportunity offers over a wide region. This system is already partially in operation in some of the Western and Southern States; and wherever adopted has proved to be of great value. These missionaries in general have gathered churches and secured ministers, and so have laid the foundations for many generations. We only need some more perfect and permanent arrangement in respect to them, to advance and take possession of regions where the voice of an educated minister is now rarely ever heard.

In reference to these three fields, our Church has begun the work, and begun it well. But, if she would perform her mission fully, she must adapt her missionary and educational systems to this new state of things, and then gird herself for labors protracted and difficult, but promising the richest harvest of souls.

SUMMARY.

Such in general are the state and prospects of our Church, as reported to us in the Narratives of the Presbyteries. We have enjoyed great temporal prosperity. In the building and repairing of churches, and the liquidation of church debts, great progress has been made. Our churches are dwelling in peace, and are growing in steadfastness of attachment to our doctrine and discipline; we have enjoyed many and precious revivals of religion, and

multitudes have been added to the churches. At the same time, there is a most affecting want of ministers, and wide fields of labor that we are unable to enter upon efficiently, from the inability to obtain the proper men to go in and reap the harvest.

DECEASE OF MINISTERS.

In conclusion, we would say, that death has been busy among us, removing one and another from their labors on earth, to join the assembly in heaven.

The following twenty-one ministers have deceased, since the meeting of the last Assembly, viz.:

Ezra G. Johnson,	of the Presbytery of	Catskill.
Josiah Hawes,	"	"
Oliver Wetmore,	"	Utica.
Daniel Bradford Butts,	"	"
Azariah Smith, M. D.,	"	Onondaga.
William Clark,	"	Geneva.
James H. Hotchkin,	"	Bath.
Horace A. Taylor,	"	Buffalo.
Edmund Ingalls,	"	"
Royal West,	"	New York, Third.
Daniel L. Carroll, D. D.,	"	New York, Fourth.
William L. Richards,	"	Brooklyn.
Noah Crane,	"	Newark.
Ebenezer J. Leavenworth,	"	Elyria.
James Brown,	"	Franklin.
Isaiah N. Ford,	"	Scioto.
Isaac Bliss,	"	Galena.
Orange Lyman,	"	Chicago.
Jairus Wilcox,	"	"
Ichabod L. Skinner,	"	District of Columbia.
Henry Reid,	"	Union.

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

From the reports of the Delegates of the branches of the Church of Christ in correspondence with us, we are permitted to report their continued prosperity, and the gratifying evidence of the smiles of the Great Head of the Church upon them. Delegates from the following Corresponding Bodies have been present with us at this meeting of the Assembly, viz.:

General Association of Connecticut.
General Association of Massachusetts.
General Association of New Hampshire.
General Conference of Maine.
General Convention of Vermont.
Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin.
General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.
General Association of New York.

The Delegates from the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, have also communicated with us by letter.

By order of the General Assembly.

WILLIAM ADAMS, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF PRESBYTERIAL REPORTS.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Comm. Fund.	Contingent. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	6	100	2	7	84	219	210	10,187	65	220	$108 59	$16 00	A. Bordman Lambert.
1. Champlain	1814	...	27	...	5	21	39	40	2,494	5	97	.....	.....	David Dobie.
2. Troy	1820	...	26	2	...	16	64	106	2,859	25	41	9 00	5 00	A. Bordman Lambert.
3. Albany	1791	...	8	...	...	11	42	32	1,383	12	24	27 59	5 00	Robert P. Stanton.
4. Columbia	1802	...	9	...	2	6	29	13	902	10	14	32 00	2 25	Henry Darling.
5. Delaware	1831	...	19	...	...	18	24	7	1,364	10	29	4 00	1 00	Isaac D. Cornwell.
6. Catskill	1851	...	11	...	...	12	21	12	1,185	3	15	36 00	2 75	Josiah Leonard.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	5	93	2	1	100	255	211	9,323	59	149	137 94	22 37	Franklin A. Spencer.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	8	...	1	9	4	17	778	1	19	21 00	2 00	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	16	...	...	22	80	56	2,354	24	38	26 50	25	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego	1823	...	14	...	...	22	*47	...	1,750	1	21	12 00	.....	Robert W. Condit, D. D.
4. Otsego	1820	...	18	...	...	19	53	51	1,555	15	37	27 00	4 82	John G. Hall.
5. Utica	1842	...	37	2	...	28	71	87	2,886	18	34	51 44	15 30	Samuel W. Brace.
III. Synod of Geneva	1812	10	209	27	9	191	1,006	630	20,958	293	420	316 51	5 52	Henry A. Nelson.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	38	1	1	26	72	87	3,068	25	50	68 50	.....	Seth P. M. Hastings.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	34	21	...	23	80	63	2,565	35	44	60 25	.....	Henry A. Nelson.
3. Geneva	1805	...	43	1	...	28	375	93	4,544	89	119	10 20	.....	William Hogarth.
4. Cortland	1825	...	10	...	3	16	74	66	1,802	25	37	47 00	2 00	Hercules R. Dunham.
5. Chenango	1826	...	12	1	3	17	113	39	1,773	34	35	29 00	.....	Amos C. Tuttle.
6. Tioga	1829	...	16	...	...	14	47	60	1,817	11	37	13 80	3 52	Peter Lockwood.
7. Bath	1817	...	11	1	...	17	64	43	1,431	23	41	25 00	.....	B. Coleman Smith.
8. Chemung	1836	...	20	1	1	21	33	75	1,619	6	19	14 76	.....	Charles C. Carr.
9. Ithaca	1839	...	15	1	1	15	93	87	1,884	23	11	34 00	.....	William N. McHarg.
10. Pennsylvania	1845	...	10	...	...	14	55	17	455	22	27	14 00	.....	Elijah D. Wells.
IV. Synod of Genesee	1821	6	125	6	1	129	587	423	14,917	161	324	210 19	10 37	Timothy Stillman.
1. Genesee	1819	...	13	1	...	18	61	49	1,684	20	10	8 00	.....	Charles N. Mattoon.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

2. Ontario	1817	...	16	...	...	16	*52	...	1,684	7	23	22 95	.....	John Barnard, Jr.
3. Rochester	1819	...	29	2	1	22	166	112	3,430	55	62	.....	.....	John B. Richardson.
4. Niagara	1817	...	16	...	...	15	70	57	2,193	20	41	48 41	.....	Charles E. Furman.
5. Buffalo	1823	...	40	3	...	39	231	194	4,185	58	187	126 13	10 00	Timothy Stillman.
6. Angelica*	1828	...	11	...	...	19	7	11	1,741	1	1	4 70	37	Joel Wakeman.
V. Synod of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	10	192	34	16	137	711	775	22,244	191	578	308 74	191 11	John N. Lewis.
1. Hudson	1797	...	16	...	1	13	72	64	1,812	33	50	58 12	.....	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	14	2	1	15	36	39	1,645	9	27	8 50	6 50	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	8	...	...	6	7	8	621	6	3	20 50	2 00	Henry Clark.
4. New York, Third	1831	...	37	17	9	18	123	251	5,068	21	184	87 95	67 95	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, Fourth	1845	...	25	12	4	9	76	94	2,506	16	67	37 43	37 43	Thomas H. Skinner, Jr.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	16	1	1	8	93	107	2,135	18	79	27 14	27 14	Samuel H. Cox, D. D.
7. Newark	1824	...	31	2	...	17	92	102	3,473	14	71	42 10	27 09	Ebenezer Seymour.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	18	...	...	18	96	34	2,580	47	36	27 00	13 00	Joel Campbell.
9. Montrose	1832	...	20	...	...	29	116	76	2,317	27	61	.....	10 00	Adam Miller.
10. San Francisco *	1849	...	7	...	...	4	...	...	87	...	...	.....	.....	Samuel H. Willey.
VI. Synod of Pennsylvania.	1838	4	73	8	3	65	490	276	10,259	105	457	177 85	112 45	John McKnight.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	15	2	...	19	19	40	1,324	1	50	5 23	25 92	Horatic S. Howell.
2. Philadelphia, Third	1832	...	25	1	...	18	142	67	2,901	35	167	34 05	11 40	John McKnight.
3. Philadelphia, Fourth	1845	...	24	5	3	19	273	146	4,927	55	169	92 57	72 57	Charles Brown.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	9	...	...	9	56	23	1,107	14	71	46 00	2 56	Conway P. Wing.
VII. Synod of W. Penn'vania.	1843	3	21	1	...	34	133	80	2,626	34	148	78 46	5 50	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	9	1	...	15	43	40	1,115	15	42	40 46	1 25	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	7	...	...	14	43	14	87	15	53	26 00	2 25	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	5	...	...	5	47	26	63	4	53	12 00	2 00	Benjamin J. Wallace.
VIII. Synod of Michigan	1834	6	91	3	4	113	242	248	7,394	58	187	124 59	7 50	George Duffield, D. D.
1. Detroit	1826	...	20	2	1	29	69	53	2,024	11	58	39 82	.....	Robert R. Kellogg.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	12	...	1	26	54	46	1,214	16	45	32 50	2 50	Norman Kellogg.
3. Monroe	1833	...	14	...	...	15	35	34	1,114	5	27	14 00	.....	John Monteith.
4. Marshall	1838	...	19	...	...	19	38	69	1,320	10	36	22 70	5 00	Samuel H. Hall.
5. Washtenaw	1838	...	15	1	2	13	46	46	1,061	16	21	15 57	.....	William S. Curtis.
6. Kalamazoo *	1838	...	11	...	...	11	...	...	661	...	...	.....	.....	Ova P. Hoyt.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Comm. Fund.	Conting. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
IX. Synod of W. Reserve...	1825	8	140	14	...	119	143	202	7,578	52	33	$75 32	$7 20	William Hanford.
1. Grand River	1814	...	17	1	...	15	1	16	1,055	1	4	.....	.....	Ebenezer Bushnell.
2. Portage	1818	...	31	9	...	16	46	37	1,320	6	47	5 00	.....	William Hanford.
3. Huron.	1823	...	20	...	...	19	41	45	1,202	5	18	27 65	2 50	Alfred Newton.
4. Trumbull	1827	...	14	1	...	15	34	24	1,173	30	3	2 00	.....	Xenophon Betts.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	25	1	...	14	15	47	1,273	7	35	27 02	3 50	James Shaw.
6. Medina*	1836	...	7	...	...	10	...	...	345	...	...	.....	.....	Sherman D. Taylor.
7. Elyria*	1842	...	16	2	...	13	...	...	719	...	...	.....	.....	Alfred H. Betts.
8. Maumee	1842	...	10	...	...	17	6	33	491	3	26	13 65	1 20	James H. Newton.
X. Synod of Ohio	1814	4	48	6	4	73	205	186	4,398	53	181	140 78	11 56	Addison Kingsbury.
1. Athens	1822	...	12	2	...	21	15	17	896	1	21	3 50	.....	James S. Walton.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	15	...	1	22	118	58	1,575	32	50	37 25	4 20	Alexander Duncan.
3. Franklin	1835	...	14	3	2	19	58	74	1,261	18	60	48 03	3 51	Henry Shedd.
4. Scioto	1845	...	7	1	1	11	14	37	666	2	50	52 00	3 85	Joseph Chester.
XI. Synod of Cincinnati	1829	3	42	7	6	40	167	98	3,042	39	71	228 45	10 00	Thornton A. Mills.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	25	7	6	15	75	56	1,437	16	43	153 45	10 00	David D. Gregory.
2. Dayton	1838	...	8	...	...	14	48	14	930	17	20	15 00	.....	Daniel Rice.
3. Hamilton	1846	...	9	...	...	11	44	28	675	6	8	60 00	.....	Daniel Tenney.
XII. Synod of Indiana	1826	4	43	2	3	63	145	142	3,017	59	143	225 25	23 00	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem	1823	...	9	...	3	16	31	23	769	17	36	84 75	11 00	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	14	...	...	16	70	37	983	29	48	43 00	5 00	Hiram Wason.
3. Indianapolis	1830	...	13	1	...	20	29	68	740	11	41	70 50	5 00	Clement E. Babb.
4. Greencastle	1850	...	7	1	...	11	15	14	525	2	18	27 00	2 00	William D. Rosseter.
XIII. Synod of Wabash	1851	4	30	3	...	49	92	70	1,918	31	86	126 00	4 60	James H. Johnston.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	12	...	...	14	8	24	504	7	21	15 00	2 00	James H. Johnston.
2. Logansport	1835	...	6	1	...	15	63	31	879	18	34	52 50	.....	Martin M. Post.

3. Fort Wayne	1845	...	8	2	...	14	7	2	328	2	14	48 50	1 60	James Thompson.
4. Elkhart	1852	...	4	...	...	6	14	13	207	4	17	10 00	1 00	Nathan L. Lord.
XIV. Synod of Illinois	1831	5	65	2	3	88	356	313	4,376	97	164	131 44	8 90	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois	1828	...	17	...	...	15	94	85	1,002	28	47	32 19	3 20	Livingston M. Glover.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	10	...	2	15	41	27	994	6	12	62 50	.....	Henry C. Abernethy.
3. Wabash	1833	...	6	...	...	7	12	14	223	3	13	.....	.....	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	22	2	...	33	136	97	1,482	38	66	24 25	2 50	Augustus T. Norton.
5. Des Moines	1845	...	10	...	1	18	73	90	675	22	26	12 50	3 20	S. Storrs Howe.
XV. Synod of Peoria	1843	8	73	...	...	55	150	217	3,250	47	123	89 25	11 40	Robert W. Patterson.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	15	...	...	12	21	14	249	10	3	5 00	.....	Nahum Gould.
2. Peoria and Knox	1836	...	13	...	...	7	44	25	757	16	25	17 00	.....	Joseph Fowler.
3. Galena	1842	...	9	...	...	15	14	34	747	2	25	5 00	1 20	John C. Downer.
4. Chicago	1847	...	12	...	...	6	50	43	689	12	29	22 00	6 00	Lewis H. Loss.
5. Belvidere	1847	...	9	...	...	5	3	38	404	2	14	14 75	.....	Ichabod A. Hart.
6. Minnesota	1850	...	3	...	...	3	6	14	59	3	7	10 00	1 20	Edward D. Neill.
7. Milwaukee	1851	...	8	...	...	5	12	49	285	2	20	10 50	3 00	William H. Spencer.
8. Fox River	1851	...	4	...	...	2	...	...	60	...	...	5 00	.....	John B. Preston.
XVI. Synod of Missouri	1832	4	41	...	4	57	146	133	2,132	29	110	35 40	6 40	John Leighton.
1. Saint Louis	1831	...	11	...	4	13	107	94	904	21	53	.....	4 00	Edmund Wright.
2. Northern Missouri	1845	...	10	...	...	12	29	21	580	5	47	7 25	.....	John Leighton.
3. Lexington *	1845	...	11	...	...	14	...	...	323	...	...	5 00	.....	Topping S. Reeve.
4. Osage	1845	...	9	...	...	18	10	18	325	3	10	23 15	2 40	Joseph V. Barks.
XVII. Synod of Virginia	1788	3	40	9	5	45	229	92	3,993	64	150	41 00	41 33	John C. Smith.
1. Winchester	1794	...	12	4	3	18	72	18	1,035	34	29	33 00	1 92	Patterson Fletcher.
2. District of Columbia	1831	...	12	3	...	11	99	54	1,576	8	104	.....	29 41	Thomas J. Shepherd.
3. Hanover	1838	...	16	2	2	16	58	20	1,382	22	17	8 00	10 00	Henry Osborn.
XVIII. Synod of Kentucky	1802	3	14	2	3	24	78	46	1,186	15	52	154 50	5 70	Archer C. Dickerson.
1. Harmony	1842	...	6	...	3	9	17	20	451	3	27	59 50	5 00	Fincelius R. Gray.
2. Providence	1842	...	4	1	...	6	36	24	482	12	25	90 00	70	Thomas H. Cleland.
3. Green River	1842	...	4	1	...	9	25	2	253	...	...	5 00	.....	Archer C. Dickerson.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Whole No. of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Comm. Fund.	Conting. Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
XIX. Synod of Tennessee....	1817	4	47	...	3	76	325	49	4,829	119	137	$38 26	$8 37	John J. Robinson.
1. Union.....	1797	...	22	...	2	27	197	17	1,958	79	71	10 00	2 57	Gideon S. White.
2. Holston.....	1826	...	11	...	...	16	25	6	1,472	2	23	8 26	.....	Rufus P. Wells.
3. Kingston.....	1838	...	7	...	...	19	14	22	668	2	28	10 00	2 80	William B. Brown.
4. New River	1838	...	7	...	1	14	89	4	731	36	15	10 00	3 00	George Painter.
XX. Synod of W. Tennessee.	1826	3	24	1	3	36	109	30	2,071	39	85	206 50	8 98	William Eagleton.
1. West Tennessee.....	1810	...	7	...	1	7	31	5	544	10	15	.....	98	Robert C. Garrison.
2. Shiloh	1816	...	10	...	1	17	45	12	954	19	45	80 00	3 00	Amzi Bradshaw.
3. Richland.....	1824	...	7	1	1	12	33	13	573	10	25	126 50	5 00	Archibald M. Pickens.
XXI. Synod of Mississippi.....	1846	3	16	1	...	24	28	9	54	7	13	.....	.....	Alexander Newton, D. D.
1. Clinton.....	1832	...	5	1	...	5	12	5	263	3	7	.....	.....	George Moore.
2. Lexington, South	1845	...	8	...	...	8	16	4	403	4	6	.....	.....	James M. McLean.
3. Newton*.....	1845	...	3	...	...	11	...	...	288	...	...	.....	.....	Duncan A. Campbell.

SCHEDULE OF SYNODS.

NAME.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Examination.	Added on Certificate.	Whole Number of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Commiss. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	STATED CLERKS.
1. Albany	1803	6	100	2	7	84	219	210	10,187	65	220	$108 59	$16 00	A. Bordman Lambert.
2. Utica	1829	5	93	2	1	100	255	211	9,323	59	149	137 94	22 37	Franklin A. Spencer.
3. Geneva	1812	10	209	27	9	191	1,006	630	20,958	293	420	316 51	5 52	Henry A. Nelson.
4. Genesee	1821	6	125	6	1	129	587	423	14,917	161	324	210 19	10 37	Timothy Stillman.
5. N. York and N. Jersey	1788	10	192	34	16	137	711	775	22,244	191	578	308 74	191 11	John N. Lewis.
6. Pennsylvania	1838	4	73	8	3	65	490	276	10,259	105	457	177 85	112 45	John McKnight.
7. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	21	1	...	34	133	80	2,626	34	148	78 46	5 50	George A. Lyon, D. D.
8. Michigan	1834	6	91	3	4	113	242	248	7,394	58	187	124 59	7 50	George Duffield, D. D.
9. Western Reserve	1825	8	140	14	...	119	143	202	7,578	52	133	75 32	7 20	William Hanford.
10. Ohio	1814	4	48	6	4	73	205	186	4,398	53	181	140 78	11 56	Addison Kingsbury.
11. Cincinnati	1829	3	42	7	6	40	167	98	3,042	39	71	228 45	10 00	Thornton A. Mills.
12. Indiana	1826	4	43	2	3	63	145	142	3,017	59	143	225 25	23 00	John M. Bishop.
13. Wabash	1851	4	30	3	...	49	92	70	1,918	31	86	126 00	4 60	James H. Johnston.
14. Illinois	1831	5	65	2	3	88	356	313	4,376	97	164	131 44	8 90	Henry C. Abernethy.
15. Peoria	1843	8	73	...	...	55	150	217	3,250	47	123	89 25	11 40	Robert W. Patterson.
16. Missouri	1832	4	41	...	4	57	146	133	2,132	29	110	35 40	6 40	John Leighton.
17. Virginia	1788	3	40	9	5	45	229	92	3,993	64	150	41 00	41 33	John C. Smith.
18. Kentucky	1802	3	14	2	3	24	78	46	1,186	15	52	154 50	5 70	Archer C. Dickerson.
19. Tennessee	1817	4	47	...	3	76	325	49	4,829	119	137	38 26	8 37	John J. Robinson.
20. West Tennessee	1826	3	24	1	3	36	109	30	2,071	39	85	206 50	8 98	William Eagleton.
21. Mississippi	1846	3	16	1	...	24	28	9	954	7	13	.....	.....	Alexander Newton, D. D.
		106	1,527	130	75	1,602	5,816	4,440	140,652	1,617	3,931	$2,955 02	$518 26	

COMPARATIVE VIEW.

It will be seen, by the preceding tables, that Statistical Reports have been received from all the Presbyteries, with the exception of Angelica, San Francisco, Kalamazoo, Medina, Elyria, Lexington, and Newton. Several of the reports are quite imperfect, and the returns very defective. A large number of churches have not made any report to their Presbyteries, and some of them have failed to make any return for several years. It is hoped, that increasing attention will be given to this matter, and that delinquent churches will be required to report themselves annually. Statistical Reports should be returnable in March or April, so as to present an accurate view of the state of the Church at the meeting of the General Assembly in May.

No change has taken place in the number or arrangement of the Synods. Present number, twenty-one.

Three new Presbyteries have been erected during the past year; Catskill, Elkhart, and Fox River. One, Ionia, has been dissolved. Increase, two. Present number, one hundred and six.

The number of Ministers is one thousand five hundred and twenty-seven; an increase of thirty-seven. During the year twenty-one ministers have died; a decrease of ten.

The Licentiates are one hundred and thirty; a decrease of ten. Since the reports went to press, two Presbyteries have licensed sixteen more. The whole number at the present time is about one hundred and fifty.

The Candidates number seventy-five; an increase of eleven. These are nearly all in the last year of their preparatory course. A much greater number are at an earlier stage, but not under the particular care of their Presbyteries. The last Assembly has required, that in future the whole number be reported, whether under the care of the Presbyteries, or of the churches only.

The Churches are one thousand six hundred and two; an increase of twenty-three.

The Additions to the number of Communicants has been ten thousand two hundred and fifty-six; an increase of three hundred and seventy-four over the additions of the previous year. The Additions on Examination were five thousand eight hundred and sixteen: an increase of one hundred and thirty-seven. On Certificate, four thousand four hundred and forty; an increase of two hundred and thirty-seven. In no previous year since 1837 has so large a number been reported. Yet seven of the Presbyteries and a large number of churches have made no returns. The whole number of additions, therefore, must have exceeded eleven thousand.

The number of Communicants is one hundred and forty thousand six hundred and fifty-two; an increase of five hundred and seventy-six.

The Baptisms have been five thousand five hundred and forty-eight; a decrease of one hundred and eighty-five. If an equal number of Presbyteries had reported, the number would in all probability have exceeded that of the previous year. Of Adults, one thousand six hundred and seventeen, and of Infants, three thousand nine hundred and thirty-one are reported;

an increase of ten in the former, and a decrease of one hundred and ninety-five in the latter case.

The Contributions to the Funds of the Assembly have been much larger than usual. The whole sum reported is three thousand four hundred and seventy-three dollars and twenty-eight cents; an increase of seven hundred and fifty-seven dollars and forty-five cents. For the expenses of Commissioners to the Assembly, two thousand nine hundred and fifty-five dollars and two cents have been contributed; an increase of five hundred and eighty-nine dollars and ninety-six cents. Of the whole sum, only one thousand and seventy-seven dollars and eighty-eight cents were paid into the treasury of the Assembly; the remainder, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven dollars and fourteen cents, was paid to the Commissioners by their respective Presbyteries. In a few cases no return has been made of the sum thus paid. For the Contingent Fund, five hundred and eighteen dollars and twenty-six cents have been contributed, and, with the exception of four dollars and twenty-five cents, paid into the treasury of the Assembly.

A careful review of the above particulars will show, that the Church has been at no time, since 1837, in so healthful and hopeful a condition as at present.

All which is respectfully submitted.

EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

New York, July 1*st*, 1852.

MINUTES, 1853.

Buffalo, N. Y., May 19th, 1853.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the North Presbyterian church, in the city of Buffalo, on Thursday, the 19th day of May, 1853, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. William Adams, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from 1 Cor. iv. 1–5: "Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self. For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified; but he that judgeth me is the Lord. Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer, and shortly after adjourned until half-past three o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 19th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions presented their report, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled as duly-appointed Commissioners to this General Assembly, viz.:—

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	Charles Gillette,	
	Joseph T. Willett.	
2. *Troy*,	Philander Barbour,	James W. Bishop,
	Andrew J. Fennell,	Linus C. Barnes (5).*
3. *Albany*,	Eber M. Rollo,	Wm. Burton.
4. *Columbia*,	Henry E. Niles,	Daniel D. Warner.
5. *Delaware*,	Aaron P. Allen (2),	Alfred Redfield (2).
6. *Catskill*,	Marcus Smith (2).	[300]

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	Baruch B. Beckwith,	Hon. C. T. Hulburt (6).
2. *Watertown*,	Sylvester Holmes,	F. W. Andrews (4).
3. *Oswego*.		
4. *Otsego*,	John F. Ingersoll,	John Mason.
5. *Utica*,	Royal A. Avery,	Daniel Nolton,
	R. Ransom Kirk,†	N. H. Dering, M. D. (2).

*The figures show on what day of the sessions the Commissioner took his seat.

†Succeeded by Edward C. Pritchett, (5,) alternate.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Onondaga*,	Seth P. M. Hastings,	Asa H. Wells,
	George H. Hulin (2),	Elmore W. Tuttle.
2. *Cayuga*,	Moses Thacher,	Hon. W. J. Cornwell.
	Charles Anderson,	
3. *Geneva*,	George R. H. Shumway,	John M. Bradford.
	William W. Collins,	
4. *Cortland*,	Samuel N. Robinson,	Hon. Noah H. Osborne.
5. *Chenango*,	Willard M. Hoyt,	Charles S. Rogers.
6. *Tioga*,	M. M. Wakeman,	Daniel Mersereau.
7. *Bath*,	Flavel S. Gaylord,	James M. Reeder.
8. *Chemung*,	David Murdock, D. D.,	George A. Perkins.
9. *Ithaca*,	Eleazar T. Ball,	James Bodle (2).
10. *Pennsylvania*,	Elisha B. Benedict,	Wm. R. Shepherd (4).

IV. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Genesee*,	Hiram Gregg,	Hon. Levi Fisk.
2. *Ontario*,	Benjamin G. Riley,	Felix Tracy.
3. *Rochester.*		
4. *Niagara*,	Asahel L. Brooks,	
5. *Buffalo*,	M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D.,	Benjamin Hodge,
	Henry G. Blinn,	John Scott.
6. *Angelica*,	Joel Wakeman (4),	Lucius S. May.

V. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Nathaniel E. Pierson,	Moses Sawyer.
2. *North River*,	Sumner Mandeville,	Edward Wells.
3. *Long Island*,	Epher Whitaker,	Ira B. Tuthill.
4. *New York, 3d*,	Washington Roosevelt,	Mahlon T. Hewit,
	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.,	John P. Cumming.
5. *New York, 4th*,	Ezra H. Gillett,	James Morris,
	Amasa S. Freeman,	William P. Cook.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Samuel H. Cox, D. D.,	Walter S. Griffith.
7. *Newark*,	Ansel D. Eddy, D. D.,	Eliphalet Hall,
	Daniel W. Poor,	Abiathar Harrison.
8. *Rockaway*,	Alfred Ketcham,	Albert R. Riggs.
9. *Montrose*,	Henry A. Rowland,	Leonard Batchelor.
10. *San Francisco.*		[301]

VI. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	Isaac W. K. Handy,	Hon. Samuel Jefferson.
2. *Philadelphia 3d*,	Elias J. Richards,	Hon. William Strong,
	Charles S. Renshaw,	John Clouds.
3. *Philadelphia 4th*,	Charles Brown,	Anson Jewell,
	E. W. Gilbert, D. D.,	J. M. Paul, M. D. (3).
4. *Harrisburgh*,	George R. Moore,	Samuel Small.

VII. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	James F. Read,	Jacob Fritts.
2. *Meadville*,	John McMaster,	James Clark.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Samuel M. Sparks.	

VIII. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Detroit*,	Noah M. Wells,	S. V. R. Trowbridge.
2. *St. Joseph*,	Porter B. Parrey,	Robert P. Herbert (6).
3. *Monroe*,	John Monteith (2),	William H. Boyd (2).
4. *Marshall*,	William W. Atterbury,	Harvey Austin.
5. *Washtenaw*,	Samuel Fleming (2),	Elnathan A. Pitkin.
6. *Kalamazoo*,	C. M. Morehouse (2).	

IX. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	Ebenezer Bushnell,	Wm. Hubbard.
2. *Portage*,	Chauncey Eddy.	
3. *Huron*,	Caleb J. Pitkin,	Jairus Kennan.
4. *Trumbull*,	William R. Stevens,	Luther F. Lyman.
5. *Cleveland*,	Samuel C. Aiken, D. D., William Day (2),	Stephen Whitaker.
6. *Medina*,	Frederick H. Brown.	
7. *Elyria*,	Timothy M. Hopkins,	Elijah De Witt, M. D.
8. *Maumee*,	Alanson T. Wood.	

X. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	James S. Walton,	Isaac Knapp, M. D.
2. *Pataskala*,	Jacob Little,	John B. Cooley, M. D.
3. *Franklin*,	John W. Thompson,	Timothy Lee.
4. *Scioto*,	Lysander Kelsey,	Joseph Riggs.

XI. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	D. Howe Allen, D. D., Oren H. Newton,	Henry Y. Slaymaker, William B. Moores (2).
2. *Dayton*,	Franklin Putnam,	Joseph M. Skinner.
3. *Hamilton*,	Isaac C. Beach (2),	William Carey. [302]

XII. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	Walter Mitchell,	William C. Conner.
2. *Madison*,	Levi R. Booth,	James M. Safford.
3. *Indianapolis*,	George M. Maxwell,	Samuel Merrill.
4. *Greencastle*,	Thomas S. Milligan,	William Kile, M. D.

XIII. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	Moody Chase,	Alexander Buchanan.
2. *Logansport*,	James A. Carnahan,	Gardiner Mudge.
3. *Fort Wayne*,	James Thompson,	Samuel P. Ludy.
4. *Elkhart*,	Jacob E. Conrad,	George W. Rhodes.

XIV. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	John G. Rankin.	
2. *Schuyler*,	John Ballard (3),	Eli H. Young.
3. *Wabash*,	Charles H. Palmer.	
4. *Alton*,	Augustus T. Norton (2), William H. Bird,	Asa L. Saunders, Wm. P. Pitman (3).
5. *Des Moines.*		
6. *Iowa City*,	Williston Jones.	
7. *Keokuk*,	Gamaliel C. Beaman.	

XV. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Ottawa*,	Charles R. Fisk.	
2. *Peoria and Knox*,	William Y. Miller.	
3. *Galena*,	Shubael G. Spees,	John Rice.
4. *Chicago*,	Harvey Curtis,	Erial McArthur, M. D.
5. *Belvidere*,	Hutchins Taylor,	John McClure.
6. *Minnesota.*		
7. *Milwaukee*,	William H. Spencer,	Henry S. Burton (3).
8. *Fox River*,	William A. Niles (2).	

XVI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	William Homes,	David W. Ferguson (3).
2. *Northern Missouri*,	William W. Whipple.	
3. *Lexington*,	Timothy Morgan.	
4. *Osage.*		

XVII. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester*,	William Torrey,	James V. Moore.
2. *Dist. of Columbia*,	John C. Smith,	Hon. Otho Magruder.
3. *Hanover*,	Ellis J. Newlin.	

XVIII. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

1. *Harmony*,	Benjamin Mills.	
2. *Providence*,	George W. Nichols (2),	John D. Armstrong (2).
3. *Green River.*		[303]

XIX. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union*,	Gideon S. White.
2. *Holston*,	Frederick A. Ross, D. D.
3. *Kingston*,	William E. Caldwell.
4. *New River.*	

XX. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

1. *West Tennessee*,	Milton H. Dysart,	Hon. Gideon B. Black.
2. *Shiloh*,	Edwin T. Brantley.	
3. *Richland*,	William L. Tarbet,	C. N. Ordway, M. D.

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

1. *Clinton*,	Thomas Magruder.
2. *South Lexington*,	Charles Merwin.
3. *Newton*,	Robert McLain.

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

General Association of Connecticut.	
General Association of Massachusetts.	
General Association of N. Hampshire.	
General Conference of Maine,	Rev. John Perham (3).
General Convention of Vermont.	
General Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island.	
Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin,	Rev. Jeremiah Porter.

General Synod of the Lutheran Church in the United States.
General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.
General Association of New York, Rev. Henry Ward Beecher (3).
General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

The Committee further reported, that the Rev. Jeremiah Porter, Delegate from the Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin, Elder William Hubbard, from the Presbytery of Grand River, and the Rev. Eleazer T. Ball, of the Presbytery of Ithaca, were present without Commissions.

After some inquiry, the Rev. Jeremiah Porter was received, and his name was entered on the Roll.

The cases of Rev. E. T. Ball and Mr. Wm. Hubbard were referred to the Rev. Messrs. Jacob Little and Harvey Curtis, and Elder W. S. Griffith, as a *Committee on Elections.*

The Assembly proceeded to the election of a Moderator. Nominations were made, and it was resolved that a majority of all the votes be necessary to a choice. [304]

The Roll was called, and the Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, was chosen Moderator, and inducted into office in the usual form.

The Rev. William H. Spencer, of the Presbytery of Milwaukee, was in the same manner chosen Temporary Clerk.

The Rev. Jean P. Revel, president of the Synod of the Waldenses, being present, was introduced by the Rev. S. H. Cox, D. D., and invited to address the Assembly.

After which the following resolution was passed unanimously:

"The General Assembly having heard and considered the mission to this country of Rev. Jean P. Revel, the present Moderator of the Waldensian Synod, express their confidence and cordial esteem towards him and his object; and recommend both to the favor of the churches as especially worthy."

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 9 o'clock A. M. to 12½ M.; and from 3 o'clock to 5½ P. M.; and that the first half hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 20th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

After which, the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Rev. R. Ransom Kirk—the sudden death of his wife's brother requiring his absence—was excused from further attendance on the sessions of the Assembly.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following new Commissioners, whose names were put upon the Roll of the Assembly, viz.:

Rev. Marcus Smith,	from the Presbytery of	Catskill.
Rev. Augustus T. Norton,	"	Alton.
Rev. William Day,	"	Cleveland.
Rev. John Monteith,	"	Monroe.

Elder Wm. H. Boyd,	from the Presbytery of	Monroe.
Elder Nicoll H. Dering, M. D.,	"	Utica.
Elder Wm. B. Moores,	"	Cincinnati.
Elder James Bodle,	"	Ithaca.
Rev. Wm. A. Niles,	"	Fox River.
Rev. Charles M. Morehouse,	"	Kalamazoo.
Rev. George H. Hulin,	"	Onondaga.
Rev. Samuel Fleming,	"	Washtenaw.
Rev. Aaron P. Allen,	"	Delaware.
Elder Alfred Redfield,	"	"
Rev. Isaac C. Beach,	"	Hamilton.
Rev. George W. Nichols,	"	Providence.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly. [305]

The Committee on Elections reported, and, on their recommendation, the Rev. Eleazar T. Ball, of the Presbytery of Ithaca; Elder Wm. Hubbard, of the Presbytery of Grand River; and Elder John D. Armstrong, of the Presbytery of Providence, who had appeared without Commissions, were admitted to seats in the Assembly.

The printed Minutes of the last Assembly were distributed among the members.

The docket of business was presented and read by the Stated Clerk.

It was made the order of the day for 3 o'clock P. M., to hear the report of the Committee appointed by the last Assembly to confer with the Executive Committee of the American Home Missionary Society.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees, viz.:

1. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—S. H. Cox, D. D., S. C. Aiken, D. D., F. A. Ross, D. D., J. A. Carnahan. *Elders*—Hon. O Magruder, Hon. N. H. Osborne, and S. Merrill.

2. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—E. F. Hatfield, D. D., F. Putnam, G. S. White, and S. M. Sparks. *Elders*—Hon. S. Jefferson, S. V. R. Trowbridge, and H. Y. Slaymaker.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—A. D. Eddy, D. D., H. A. Rowland, R. McLain, and J. Little. *Elders*—W. J. Cornwell, J. M. Bradford, and Wm. Kile, M. D.

4. *Church Extension. Ministers*—H. Curtis, J. C. Smith, A. T. Norton, and B. Mills. *Elders*—J. P. Cumming, John Rice, and W. S. Griffith.

5. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., B. G. Riley, A. L. Brooks, and H. G. Blinn. *Elders*—F. Tracy, J. Scott, and B. Hodge.

6. *Narrative. Ministers*—S. G. Spees, E. J. Richards, W. Homes, and G. H. Hulin.

7. *Leave of Absence.. Ministers*—N. M. Wells, C. Brown, E. Bushnell, and T. M. Hopkins. *Elders*—W. H. Boyd, A. Jewell, and J. M. Skinner.

8. *Mileage. Elders*—J. Clouds, M. T. Hewit, and W. B. Moores.

9. *Elections. Ministers*—J. Little and H. Curtis. *Elder*—W. S. Griffith.

The Moderator also announced the following Committees on Synodical Records, viz.: on the Records of the Synod of

1. *Albany. Ministers*—B. B. Beckwith and A. L. Brooks. *Elder*—W. P. Cook.

2. *Utica. Ministers*—M. Thacher and W. R. Stevens. *Elder*—Wm. Burton.

3. *Geneva. Ministers*—S. Mandeville and G. M. Maxwell. *Elder*—J. V. Moore.

4. *Genesee. Ministers*—E. Bushnell and E. Whitaker. *Elder*—J. Baker.

5. *New York and New Jersey. Ministers*—C. Brown and W. W. Atterbury. *Elder*—E. H. Young.

6. *Pennsylvania. Ministers*—E. H. Gillett and C. R. Fisk. *Elder*—S. Whitaker. [306]

7. *West Pennsylvania. Ministers*—C. Eddy and L. Kelsey. *Elder*—H. Gardiner.

8. *Michigan. Ministers*—D. Murdock, D. D., and A. T. Wood. *Elder*—Hon. G. B. Black.

9. *Western Reserve. Ministers*—E. M. Rollo and C. Anderson. *Elder*—W. H. Boyd.

10. *Ohio. Ministers*—F. H. Brown and M. Chase. *Elder*—E. A. Pitkin.

11. *Cincinnati. Ministers*—I. W. K. Handy and G. C. Beaman. *Elder*—T. Lee.

12. *Indiana. Ministers*—H. E. Niles and W. Y. Miller. *Elder*—S. P. Ludy.

13. *Wabash. Ministers*—C. Gillette and W. E. Caldwell. *Elder*—M. Henry.

14. *Illinois. Ministers*—S. P. M. Hastings and J. F. Ingersoll. *Elder*—J. Bodle.

15. *Peoria. Ministers*—R. A. Avery and J. Thompson. *Elder*—H. Austin.

16. *Missouri. Ministers*—G. R. H. Shumway and M. H. Dysart. *Elder*—J. Riggs.

17. *Virginia. Ministers*—W. W. Whipple and E. T. Ball. *Elder*—C. S. Rogers.

18. *Kentucky. Ministers*—C. S. Renshaw and E. T. Brantly. *Elder*—G. A. Perkins.

19. *Tennessee. Ministers*—A. J. Fennel and W. Torrey. *Elder*—L. S. May.

20. *West Tennessee. Ministers*—B. G. Riley and C. Merwin. *Elder*—E. Wells.

21. *Mississippi. Ministers*—F. S. Gaylord and W. L. Tarbet. *Elder*—A. Harrison.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed under the direction of the Clerks.

Nominations were made for the place of the meeting of the next Assembly. Philadelphia, St. Louis, New York, Brooklyn, and Galena were named. The election was made the order of the day for Monday at 10 o'clock A. M.

It was made the second order of the day for this afternoon, to receive Synodical Records, Narratives, Statistical Reports, Educational reports, reports on Church Extension, Overtures, memorials, appeals, and complaints.

Ordered, That, in the absence of the Treasurer, all moneys intended for the Commissioners' Fund be paid, on the rising of the Assembly this morning, to the Committee on Mileage; and all moneys for the Contingent Fund be paid into the hands of the Stated Clerk.

The Rev. Messrs. M. Smith, D. W. Poor, and T. S. Milligan were appointed a *Committee to nominate a preacher* on Home Missions for the next Assembly.

The subject of printing the *sermons of the Moderators* of the Assembly was referred to a *Committee* consisting of the Rev. Drs. S. H. Cox, S. C. Aiken, E. F. Hatfield, and the Elder Hon. W. Strong. [307]

Resolved, That the Assembly adjourn, at the close of this afternoon's session, until Monday at 9 o'clock A. M.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 20th, 3 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Records of the Synods were called for, and put into the hands of the Committees appointed to examine them. The Records of the Synods of Albany, Michigan, Western Reserve, Kentucky, and Mississippi, were not present.

The Narratives, with the Statistical, Educational, and Church Extension reports, were received, and put into the hands of the Stated Clerk, to be appropriately referred.

Several memorials also were presented, put into the hands of the Moderator, and by him distributed to the appropriate Committees.

The report of the Committee, appointed by the last Assembly to confer with the Executive Committee of the American Home Missionary Society, was presented and read by the Rev. T. A. Mills, one of their number, and was put upon the docket.

The American Bible Society having expressed through their Delegates, Rev. Drs. S. H. Cox and E. F. Hatfield, a desire for a conference with the Assembly, the subject was referred to Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., Rev. H. A. Rowland, and Elder Benjamin Hodge.

It was made the second order of the day for Monday morning to hear the secretary of the Philadelphia Education Society, and the agent of the American and Foreign Christian Union.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made a report, recommending the following supplies for the pulpits of this city and neighborhood, on the ensuing Sabbath, which was adopted:

First Presbyterian Church—Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., A. M.; Rev. William Homes, P. M.; Rev. Prof. H. B. Smith, D. D., evening.

North Presbyterian Church—Rev. S. H. Cox, D. D., A. M.; Rev. J. C. Smith, P. M.

Lafayette Street Presbyterian Church—Rev. E. F. Hatfield, D. D., A. M.; Rev. H. A. Rowland, P. M.

Westminster Presbyterian Church—Rev. H. E. Niles, A. M.; Rev. Caleb J. Pitkin, P. M.

Central Presbyterian Church—Rev. F. A. Ross, D. D., A. M.; Rev. D. Murdock, D. D., P. M.

Elk Street Methodist Church—Rev. W. Jones, A. M.

Niagara Street Methodist Church—Rev. R. McLain, A. M.; Rev. Wm. Torrey, P. M.

Swan Street Methodist Church—Rev. E. J. Richards, A. M., Rev. W. Roosevelt, P. M.

Hydraulic Methodist Church—Rev. S. P. M. Hastings.

Pearl Street Methodist Church—Rev. E. T. Ball, A. M.; Rev. G. S. White, P. M. [308]

First Baptist Church—Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., A. M.; Rev. A. S. Brooks, P. M.

Niagara Street Baptist Church—Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D., A. M.; Rev. S. Mandeville, P. M.

Pearl Street Baptist Church—Rev. J. A. Carnahan, A. M.; Rev. C. Merwin, P. M.

Scotch Presbyterian Church—Rev. W. A. Niles, A. M.; Rev. Charles Brown, P. M.

North Evans—Rev. E. Whitaker.

Lockport Congregational Church—Rev. W. W. Atterbury.
Westfield—Rev. M. Smith and Rev. T. M. Hopkins.
Michigan Street Baptist Church, (*col.*)—Rev. P. Barbour, P. M.; Rev. Thomas Magruder, evening.
East Presbyterian Church—Rev. B. Mills.
Aurora—Rev. P. B. Parrey.

The nomination of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies was made the third order of the day for Monday morning next.

It was agreed to hear the reports from Delegates at the same time.

The time and place of preaching the annual sermon on Home Missions were referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

The Assembly renewed the recommendation of former Assemblies, to observe the first Monday in January as a day of fasting and prayer for the Conversion of the World, and also the last Thursday in February as a day of prayer for Colleges.

Thanks were tendered to the directors of the Buffalo and Niagara Railroad Company, for the offer of excursion tickets to Niagara Falls, at a reduced rate.

The Treasurer's report was received, and referred to an *Auditing Committee*, consisting of Mr. J. M. Bradford and Hon. W. Strong.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported several memorials on the subject of Slavery, and recommended that they be referred to a Special Committee.

Before the question was taken, the Assembly adjourned until Monday at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 23d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. After the usual devotional exercises, the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners and Delegates presented their credentials, and their names were placed on the Roll, viz.:

Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, from the General Association of New York.
Rev. John Perham, from the General Conference of Maine.
Rev. John Ballard, of the Presbytery of Schuyler.

Elder David W. Ferguson,	"	St. Louis.	
" William P. Pitman.	"	Alton.	[309]
Elder J. Marshall Paul, M. D.,	"	Philadelphia, 4th.	
" Henry S. Burton,	"	Milwaukee.	

The Assembly proceeded to determine the place for the meeting of the next Assembly, and made choice of the city of Philadelphia.

It was thereupon *Resolved*, That the next General Assembly meet in the First Presbyterian church in the city of Philadelphia, on the third Thursday of May, 1854, at 11 o'clock A. M.; and that the Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Henry Darling, and the Elders, Ambrose White and Thomas Fleming, be a *Committee of Arrangements* for the purpose.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported several Overtures, as follows:

No. 1.—On "Dancing," which they recommended the Assembly to answer, by referring the memorialists to the action of former General Assemblies.

No. 2.—"On Delinquent Church Members," which was put upon the docket.

No. 3.—The case of John Frederic Astie, a foreign minister.

Resolved, That the Presbytery of New York 4th, be authorized, according to their own sound discretion, regularly to admit the Rev. Mr. Astie as a member of their body.

No. 4.—The propriety of "Marriage with a Sister's Daughter," which was put upon the docket.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of printing the sermons of the Moderators, reported the following minute, which was adopted:

"The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of publishing the sermons of the Moderators of the General Assembly, recommend to the Assembly the adoption of the following plan:

"1. That the measure seems to be due to general usefulness, and to the facts and the uses of history, as supplying to posterity what we ourselves must only desiderate in the retrospect of the Presbyterian Church, for almost two centuries now in this country, in a way at once so facile, so authentic, and so interesting, preserving the sermons preached by the Moderators of our Assemblies; an annual accession, successively accumulating as well as augmenting in value, as time increases both their quantity and their antiquity, identifying in general the characters of the age and the doctrines of the ministry.

"2. That the series commence with the sermon of the Moderator in May, 1839, as the first after the epoch of terrible memory, identified with the disruption of the Presbyterian Church by the exscinding acts of 1837 and 1838; and include all the others in succession to that of the present month in 1853.

"3. That it be, and it hereby is, earnestly recommended to every successive Assembly, to take due order in the premises to procure the publication of the sermon with which its sessions were opened, and its deliberations and measures commenced.

"4. That the performance of this service shall devolve on a special Committee, to be annually appointed, with powers, as instructed by the Assembly, to superintend and procure such publication; of this Commit[310]tee, to consist of two ministers and two ruling elders in the Presbyterian Church, the Stated Clerk of the Assembly shall be *ex-officio* a member; and it shall be his duty to send a copy of each sermon to every Presbytery in our connection, with the Minutes of the Assembly; it being understood that the treasury of the Assembly shall be in no way responsible or taxed for the measure, and that the Stated Clerk shall always preserve, subject to the order of the Assembly, a suitable number of copies for reference and use in the archives of the Assembly; and,

"5. That the Committee be authorized, in behalf of the Assembly, respectfully to request from all the ex-Moderators included, a revised copy of their sermons for the purposes aforesaid; while it will be understood by the wise that, for every particular sentiment contained in any sermon, not the Assembly, but the author of it, will be properly responsible."

The business of printing the aforesaid sermons was referred to Messrs. S. H. Cox, D. D., A. E. Campbell, D. D., James F. Trow, and James H. White.

Two copies of "A History of the Division of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America" were presented to the Assembly by the publisher, M. W. Dodd, of New York, through the Stated Clerk; whereupon the general subject of that History was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Rev. Henry A. Rowland, Samuel H. Cox, D. D., and Rev. Isaac W. K. Handy.

The Committee on Church Extension made a report, recommending the appointment of a *Committee* of one from each Synod, *to consider the* subject of the *Education of Young Men for the Ministry.* The recommendation of the Committee was adopted, and the following persons were appointed, viz.: Rev. Marcus Smith, Rev. Sylvester Holmes, Rev. G. R. H. Shumway, Rev. A. L. Brooks, Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., Hon. Wm. Strong, Rev. S. M. Sparks, Rev. W. W. Atterbury, Rev. W. R. Stevens, Rev. L. Kelsey, Rev. O. H. Newton, Rev. G. M. Maxwell, Rev. J. Thompson, Rev. A. T. Norton, Rev. S. G. Spees, Rev. W. W. Whipple, Rev. W. Torrey, Rev. G. W. Nichols, Rev. G. S. White, Hon. G. B. Black, and Rev. R. McLain.

The order of the day, viz., the hearing of the secretary of the Philadelphia Education Society, was postponed until the afternoon; and it was resolved to hear at the same time statements from the Central American Education Society, and from the agent of the Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education at the West.

A communication was received from the Presbytery of Oswego, declining to send Commissioners to this General Assembly, which, after some discussion, was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

Nominations were made of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies; and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow P. M.

Reports were then received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies, viz.: from the Rev. E. F. Hatfield, D. D., Delegate to the General Association of Connecticut; and from Rev. Myron Tracy, Delegate to the General Association of Vermont.

The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, Delegate from the General Association of New York, was also heard.

After which, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [311]

Monday, May 23d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning—the hearing of the reports of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies—was resumed.

Reports were received from the Rev. Henry Clark, Delegate to the Gen. Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island; from Rev. R. W. Patterson, Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin; from the Rev. William R. De Witt, D. D., Delegate to the Synod of the German Reformed Church; and from the Rev. Henry Kendall, Delegate to the General Association of New York.

Ordered, that the foregoing reports be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The unfinished business of Friday—viz., the motion to refer the *Memorials on Slavery* to a Select *Committee*—was resumed. After some discussion, the motion was carried, and they were referred to the Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., Rev. J. Monteith, Rev. T. S. Milligan, Rev. B. Mills; with Elders, Hon. S. Jefferson, W. Carey, and J. W. Bishop.

The Assembly then, agreeably to previous order, heard the Rev. John Patton, secretary of the Philadelphia Education Society.

The Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., was then heard in reference to the Central American Education Society.

The Rev. James Thompson then addressed the Assembly in behalf of the American and Foreign Christian Union.

After which, the following resolution was offered and adopted:

Resolved, That this Assembly approve of the objects of the American and Foreign Christian Union, as set forth in its Constitution, viz., to diffuse and promote the principles of religion, and a pure and evangelical Christianity, both at home and abroad, wherever a corrupted Christianity exists; and do cordially commend it to the confidence and patronage of the churches under their care, and to the Christian community.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made the following additional report, which was adopted:

They recommend—1. A prayer-meeting during the future sessions of the Assembly, to be held every morning in the lecture-room of this church, at 8 o'clock.

2. That, this evening, the Assembly attend a meeting in this house, to consider the objects of the American Temperance Union, to be conducted under the superintendence of Messrs. Crampton and Gregg, agents of the Society.

3. That the Assembly appoint Sabbath evening next for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; that, in this service, the Rev. S. C. Aiken, D. D., administer the Bread, assisted by Rev. S. M. Sparks; that the Rev. F. A. Ross, D. D., administer the Cup, assisted by the Rev. Chauncey Eddy; the closing hymn to be read, and the benediction pronounced, by the Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D.

And further, that the distribution of the elements be committed to the following elders: Hon. Otho Magruder, Anson Jewell, Hon. Wm. [312] Strong, Benjamin Hodge, N. H. Dering, M. D., Asa L. Saunders, Walter Griffith, and Elijah De Witt, M. D.

4. That the sermon on Home Missions be preached on Thursday evening.

The Committee, to whom it was referred to make proper arrangements for a meeting in behalf of the American Bible Society, reported, recommending that the meeting be held in the First Presbyterian church, on Wednesday evening of this week; the Rev. J. B. Richardson, agent of the Society, to introduce the business of the meeting, preparatory to a discourse by the Rev. S. H. Cox, D. D., one of the Delegates from the American Bible Society to this body.

The report was adopted.

The report of the Committee of Conference with the Ex. Com. of the American Home Missionary Society, which had been put upon the docket, was taken up and referred to the Committee on Church Extension.

An invitation was received from the Young Men's Christian Union of Buffalo, to visit their reading-room, and make use of it during the present sessions. The thanks of the Assembly were tendered to the Union.

Also, an invitation from Russell H. Heywood, Esq., president of the Buffalo and New York City Railroad, tendering to the Assembly an excursion over their road to Portage, on any day of this week which might suit the convenience of the Assembly. The invitation was accepted for Saturday next, with the thanks of the Assembly.

On motion of Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., it was *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to prepare a minute, expressive of the views of this Assembly, on the great and important subject of Religious Liberty.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 24th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Half an hour was occupied with devotional exercises. After which, the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were entered on the Roll, viz:—

Elder Frederick W. Andrews, from the Presbytery of Watertown.
Rev. Joel Wakeman, " " Angelica.
Elder William R. Shepherd, " " Pennsylvania.

The Moderator announced the following as the *Committee* on the subject of "*Religious Liberty*," viz., Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., Rev. W. Rockwell, and Hon. W. Strong.

A communication was received from the Rev. J. Morris Pease, the secretary of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, offering for the use of the Assembly 200 copies of the May number of the *Colonization Herald*, and soliciting an expression of the favor of the Assembly towards the missionary aspects and claims of that enterprise.

The Assembly proceeded to hear the Delegates from foreign bodies, in such communications as they desired to make. The Rev. John Per- [313] ham, from the General Conference of Maine, and the Rev. Jeremiah Porter, from the Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin, made interesting statements in reference to the state of religion, education, and temperance within their respective bounds.

A communication was also read from the Rev. Elias Heiner, D. D., the Delegate appointed to represent the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in this Assembly.

The annual report of the Committee appointed to superintend the publication of Doctrinal Tracts was read, and, with the accompanying documents, referred to a *Committee*, consisting of Rev. William Torrey, Rev. E. J. Richards, and Elder W. S. Griffith.

The answers of the Presbyteries to the reference of the last Assembly, on the subject of the Commissioners' and Contingent Funds, were received and referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

It was made the second order of the day for this P. M. to hear reports and statements from the various Theological Seminaries within our bounds.

Overture No. 2, on the subject of "Delinquent Church Members," was taken up, and a motion was made that the report of the Committee be adopted.

The Rev. E. F. Hatfield, D. D., moved a postponement of the motion, with a view to introduce the following substitute:

Resolved, That the Assembly judge the action of the Assembly of 1825 to be sufficiently explicit; and that it fully sustains the course of the Presbytery of North River in the premises.

After much discussion, on the motion of the Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., the whole subject was referred to a special Committee, viz., Rev. H. A. Rowland, Rev. William Torrey, and Rev. William W. Collins.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 24th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Treasurer reported that they had examined said accounts, with the accompanying vouchers, and found them correct; and that the balance in the Treasurer's hands, carried to the new account, is $65.24.

The report was adopted.

The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of the "History of the

Division of the Presbyterian Church," made a report, which, after being amended and modified, was adopted, and is as follows:

"*Whereas*, the Assembly have heard with pleasure that a "History of the Disruption of the Presbyterian Church" has been prepared under the direction of the Synod of New York and New Jersey;

"*Resolved*, That, in the view of this Assembly, it is desirable that a correct history of the causes leading to this unhappy division should be in possession of all our churches; and we would commend this volume to the examination of our ministers and members, with a view to the [314] securing of a correct and acceptable history of the painful disruption to which the Presbyterian Church has been subjected."

The Committee to nominate a preacher on Home Missions for the next year, recommended the Rev. Frederick A. Ross, D. D., of the Presbytery of Holston, principal, and the Rev. Charles White, D. D., of the Presbytery of Crawfordsville, alternate. The recommendation was adopted.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church presented a report, recommending the formation of a new Synod, to be called "the Synod of Iowa," as follows:—

"At the request of the Presbyteries of Des Moines, Iowa City, and Keokuk, and the concurring request of the Synod of Illinois, that the said Presbyteries be formed into a new Synod, it is hereby *Resolved*, that the Presbyteries of Des Moines, Iowa City, and Keokuk be, and they are hereby, set off from the Synod of Illinois, and erected into a new Synod, to be styled "The Synod of Iowa," to meet at Yellow Springs, Iowa, on the first Thursday of September next, at 2 o'clock P. M.; that the Rev. W. W. Woods be appointed to preach the opening sermon, and preside till a Moderator be elected; and, in case of his absence, the oldest minister present."

The same Committee also reported that they had received a request from the Presbyteries of Otsego, Delaware, and Chenango, to be erected into a new Synod, and recommended that it be granted, provided the Commissioners from the Synods to which these Presbyteries are attached do not object: the new Synod to take the name of "The Synod of Susquehanna." Their report was put upon the docket.

The Assembly proceeded to the first order of the day, viz., the election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, which was referred to a canvassing Committee.

The Assembly then heard reports and statements concerning our Theological Seminaries. The Rev. S. H. Cox. D. D., made statements in reference to the Union Seminary, New York. After which, the following resolution was adopted, viz.:

"The General Assembly have heard, with great pleasure and gratitude to God, that the Union Theological Seminary in the city of New York, in addition to a large sum contributed for its establishment, has recently secured an endowment of more than a hundred thousand dollars, by which it is placed on a secure pecuniary basis; and they take this occasion, in view of its increased facilities for the accommodation of students, and of its ample provision for their thorough education for the sacred ministry, most cordially to commend it to the prayers and patronage of our churches."

Written reports were received from the Auburn Seminary, the Lane Seminary, and the Maryville Seminary.

After which, the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That the General Assembly regard with an increased and lively interest the efforts of the American Sunday-School Union, especially in their endeavors to open, in the destitute portions of the land, Sabbath-schools for

the instruction and training of the young; that we acknowledge them in many instances to have formed the nucleus of a [315] Christian congregation; and we desire renewedly to commend this noble cause to the sympathy, prayers, and benefactions of the Church.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 25th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual time had been occupied with devotional exercises, the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

Mr. Linus C. Barnes, Elder from the Presbytery of Troy, presented his credentials, and his name was put upon the Roll of the Assembly.

The Committee appointed to collect and count the votes reported, that the following persons had been duly elected Delegates to Corresponding Bodies: viz., to the

General Association of Connecticut—Rev. J. N. Lewis, principal; and the Rev. David Murdock, D. D., alternate.

General Association of Massachusetts—Rev. William Adams, D. D., principal; and the Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., alternate.

General Association of New Hampshire—Rev. Andrew J. Fennel, principal; and the Rev. Jacob Little, alternate.

General Association of New York—Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., principal; and the Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., alternate.

General Conference of Maine—Rev. Baruch B. Beckwith, principal; and the Rev. Hiram Gregg, alternate.

General Convention of Vermont—Rev. Nathaniel E. Pierson, principal; and the Rev. Eber M. Rollo, alternate.

General Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island—Rev. Frederick A. Ross, D. D., principal; and the Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., alternate.

General Synod of the Lutheran Church in the United States—Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., principal; and the Rev. Samuel Washburn, alternate.

General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States—Rev. Albert T. Chester, D. D., principal; and the Rev. Washington Roosevelt, alternate.

General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church—Rev. Gideon S. White, principal; and the Rev. Robert McLain, alternate.

Presbyterian and Congregational General Convention of Wisconsin—Rev. William C. Wisner, D. D., principal; and the Rev. Timothy M. Hopkins, alternate.

The Committee on Mileage presented their report, stating that there have been paid into the hands of the Committee, from 51 Presbyteries, $1,328.15. An apportionment has been made on 43,296 miles of travel in coming to the Assembly, at the rate of $3.06 for every one hundred miles of travel, and in favor of 74 members, the whole number who are understood to have applied under the rules for a portion of the fund.

The report was adopted; and, in the absence of the Treasurer, the Committee on Mileage were authorized and directed to pay the Commissioners accordingly.

The Committee on Church Extension made a report on the subject of [316] Church Erection, for the consideration of which the Assembly went into an interlocutory meeting until 12 o'clock.

After which, the report of the Committee, having been amended, was adopted, and is as follows:

"The Committee on Church Extension submit the following report:

"That they have had submitted to them numerous papers touching the subject of church erection. These papers all indicate a wide-spread want existing, especially in the newer and more sparsely-settled portions of the country. As examples in point, take the following facts:

"The Presbytery of Peoria and Knox reports nine churches, and only six church edifices—three of their churches being without houses of worship.

"The Presbytery of Milwaukee reports four churches destitute of houses in which to meet and worship God.

"The Presbytery of Schuyler reports seventeen churches, and only twelve houses for divine worship.

"The Presbytery of Harmony reports ten churches, and six church edifices, with a joint interest in three others.

"The Presbytery of Marshall reports twenty churches, and eleven church edifices, leaving nine without a tabernacle. Of these, however, three have houses of worship in process of erection.

"The Presbytery of Franklin reports twenty-three churches, and only fifteen church edifices.

"The Presbytery of Scioto reports twenty-two churches or regular preaching-stations, and only ten houses of worship.

"The most of the Western Presbyteries report numerous points within their respective bounds where additional churches might be organized and congregations gathered, and the usefulness of ministers already in the field greatly increased, and new fields opened for many other laborers to enter and gather sheaves for the garner of the Lord, if the means were provided slightly to aid young and feeble communities in erecting small, but decent and comfortable houses of worship. We have a thousand new communities just assuming shape and form, and ere they become well established, a thousand others will have sprung up to be fashioned and shaped in turn. An immense work is before us; the moulding in forms of truth and righteousness of a million of new communities, now forming, or soon to be formed in the United States and their adjacent Territories. Into every such little community we would throw the Bible, the Sabbath, the church, and the living ministry, as the only nucleus around which society can crystalize in forms of beauty and of purity.

"The word of God is the sword of the Spirit, tempered and burnished in heaven. The Sabbath is the time when, the house of God is the place where, and the sanctified living ministry is the arm by which, that sword is to be effectually wielded for the conquest of the world. God has given us the Bible and the Sabbath. We must build the houses, and educate and support the men, to render complete this divinely-ordained system of means for the renovation of a fallen world.

"A small amount of aid will enable many a feeble congregation to build a house, who otherwise would not dare to undertake it. Two, if not more of our Synods, have already done something to meet this want [317] within their own bounds. But the want is felt very widely. Six Presbyteries, in Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa, urge us to take action in this behalf. A Presbytery in New York, and one of the richest in our connection, suggests the subject in its report, and pledges itself in advance to do its part in this great work; while a gentleman in Cleveland spontaneously pledges himself to give $1000 to this object, if $50,000 can be raised.

"With such facts before us, your Committee cannot doubt what is the will of God in respect to this matter. A clear voice and distinct is manifestly calling to us that we go forward. Your Committee would therefore recommend the following action:

"*Resolved*, 1. That the General Assembly, relying on the assisting grace of God and the hearty co-operation of his people, will undertake to raise, within the present year, the sum of $100,000, which shall constitute a permanent fund to aid feeble congregations in erecting houses of worship.

"*Resolved*, 2. That, in the furtherance of this object, the Assembly do now elect, by ballot, and annually hereafter, a Church Erection Committee, to be composed of ten members, one-half of whom shall be ministers, six to reside in or near the city of New York, and four in or near the city of Philadelphia; including the Stated and Permanent Clerks and the Treasurer of the Assembly; with power to fill their own vacancies; said Committee to employ, at their discretion, a Corresponding Secretary, who shall be paid a suitable salary, together with his traveling expenses.

"*Resolved*, 3. This Church Erection Committee shall meet in the city of New York, on the second Wednesday of June next, and thereafter, on their own adjournment, in the cities of Philadelphia and New York alternately, at least once in three months, their necessary traveling expenses being defrayed.

"*Resolved*, 4. The General Assembly hereby authorize said Committee to take such measures as to them may seem best to bring the claims of this great object before our churches, so as to secure as soon as possible the fund above named: said Committee to be authorized, also, to renew the appeal annually to our churches, in order to make up any deficiency which may exist in the first simultaneous subscriptions to complete the fund, or which may arise thereafter; it being the purpose of the Assembly to raise and maintain a permanent fund of $100,000, for the purposes herein specified.

"*Resolved*, 5. The General Assembly recommend that a collection or subscription be taken in all our churches in behalf of this object, on the second Sabbath of November next; and that the money thus raised be forwarded to Anthony P. Halsey, Esq., the Treasurer of the General Assembly, or to his successor duly appointed, to be held in trust for the use, and subject to the order, of the above-named Committee.

"*Resolved*, 6. The Stated Clerks of the several Presbyteries shall constitute a Committee of Correspondence for their respective Presbyteries, with the Church Erection Committee; communicating all needed information in respect to the state and wants of their churches; and the [318] Church Erection Committee, thus informed, shall report to the General Assembly, from year to year, the facts as they exist in respect to the relative wants of the different Synods, and also, the amount and condition of the fund under their direction, and their opinion of the proper apportionment of the same; whereupon the Assembly shall determine the amount to which each Synod shall be entitled for the year next ensuing. And thus, at each successive Assembly, the Committee shall report as aforesaid; and, further, they shall report a full statement of all moneys loaned or donated from the fund, and the securities taken therefor; and the Assembly shall direct, as before, the distribution of said fund among the Synods in our connection.

"*Resolved*, 7. Each Synod, through its Committee on Church Extension, of which the Stated Clerk of the Synod shall be *ex-officio* Secretary, shall draw on the Church Erection Committee for such portion of the fund as has been allotted to it, in such sums as it shall from time to time loan or donate to particular churches within its bounds. But no draft shall be made by any Synod for any portion of the fund allotted to it, until, where the money is loaned, each particular loan shall have been definitely agreed upon, and sufficient security in bond and mortgage or personal notes shall have been duly executed and placed in the hands of the Stated Clerk of said Synod, who shall with his draft transmit a statement of the loan thus made and the

security taken; nor shall any draft be made until such accompanying statement, satisfactory to the Committee, shall have been received.

"*Provided*, That the Church Extension Committee of each Synod, when, in their estimation, the circumstances of the case demand it, may also donate to feeble churches within their bounds, or remit on previous loans, such sums as they shall judge proper; not to exceed, however, in the aggregate, a sum equal to one fourth part of the amount apportioned to said Synod for the current year. And the Church Erection Committee shall pay the drafts for such donations in the same manner as for the loans above authorized. All moneys thus donated or remitted to be secured on the house in case of a change in the ecclesiastical relations of the church thus aided.

"*Provided*, further, That all churches, to whom moneys are thus donated or remitted, shall take an annual collection in behalf of the Church Erection Fund, at least until they shall have thus repaid the amount which was granted them. No interest shall ever be demanded for any moneys loaned to congregations from this fund, until by the terms of the loan the principal has become due."

A resolution was offered in reference to the Funds of the Assembly, which was put upon the docket.

The Rev. Charles Brown, Rev. E. H. Gillett, and Elder W. P. Cook were appointed a *Committee to nominate* the Committee contemplated by the resolutions on Church Erection.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [319]

Wednesday, May 25th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

A communication was received from the Rev. R. W. Patterson, informing the Assembly that, in consequence of disease with which he had been visited since his arrival in this city, he would be unable to fulfil the appointment to preach the annual sermon on Home Missions. The letter was referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

The Committee on the Education of Young Men for the Ministry reported, and recommended the adoption of the following preamble and resolutions:—

"*Whereas*, an imperious necessity now exists for increased efforts in the cause of education for the Christian ministry;

"And *whereas*, the Assembly have learned, with interest and pleasure, that measures are now under consideration to reorganize and modify the system of educational efforts, by which the cause may be placed upon a new basis; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That the attention of the Presbyteries be directed to the subject, for the purpose of seeking out and presenting young men of suitable qualifications for the ministry, and the securing of the more vigorous co-operation of the churches in this most important cause.

"*Resolved*, That a Committee of six be appointed by this Assembly, who shall express the sympathy and interest of this Assembly, and co-operate in measures for the securing of the important end of education for the ministry.

"*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to represent this Assembly shall consider the whole subject of Education for the Ministry, and report to the next General Assembly some plan for the united action of the Presbyterian Church with reference thereto.

"*Resolved*, That, in the meantime, the recommendations of the last General Assembly (page 170) to the Presbyteries be repeated by this Assembly."

The Rev. A. L. Brooks submitted the following minority report, which he moved as a substitute for that of the majority:

"*Whereas*, The providence of God, and the exigencies of the Church and country, imperatively demand that the Presbyterian Church recognize the responsibility, and enter upon the work, of providing for itself an adequate ministry by an agency of its own appointment; and,

"*Whereas*, no plan is at present in operation which calls forth the energies and develops the resources of the Church in this regard; and,

"*Whereas*, In the adoption of such a plan, there are many interests to be consulted, and the wants of many different sections of the Church to be provided for; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That a Committee of five be appointed to consider the whole subject, and report to the next Assembly a plan for the united action of the Presbyteries with reference thereto.

"*Resolved*, That, in the meantime, the recommendations of the last General Assembly (page 170) to the Presbyteries be repeated by this Assembly." [320]

After a long discussion, the matter was issued by the adoption of the following:

"*Resolved*, 1. That for the present we recommend the Central American Education Society and the Philadelphia Education Society as a suitable agency to be employed for this purpose.

"*Resolved*, 2. That a Committee of five be appointed to consider and digest a plan for the education of young men for the Gospel ministry, and report the same to the next Assembly."

The Rev. Henry W. Beecher, Delegate from the General Association of New York, after a short address, to which the Moderator responded, respectfully took his leave.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures made a report on the paper * from the Presbytery of Oswego, which was adopted, and is as follows:

"The Assembly has received the above document from the hand of its Stated Clerk, and has heard it read only with grief and disapprobation. It is happily a strange or rather a unique paper; the Assembly hopes its like will never be reproduced to do evil; since it were hard for any wise man to think that such a measure could do good in any possible relation.

"The Assembly, remembering the meekness and the gentleness of Christ, would treat the action of the Presbytery of Oswego, from which no such action was ever anticipated, with great forbearance; still hoping, from all its known antecedents, and from some or all of its minority, and from the better second-thoughts of all its members, that its very censurable example will be wisely corrected before the next Assembly shall convene.

"In order to this desired result, the Assembly feels called to counsel every individual constituent of that beloved Presbytery, solemnly to consider in their closets the following questions, namely:

"1st. Whether such means as some of them have used are well adapted to attain any good end at all, especially the end which they avow as that at which they aim?

"2d. Whether it is wise for a Presbytery, when it doubts the wisdom of any measure enacted or omitted by the Synod or the Assembly to which it is in compact solemnly subordinate, to exemplify the spirit of nullification, secession, rebellion, covenant-breach, or any other disorganization in its corporate acts and doings, public and avowed in the matter; or whether the

* The resolution of the Presbytery of Oswego, reads: "*Resolved*, That we decline appointing Delegates to the General Assembly until that body absolve itself from the sin of Slavery by non-fellowship with voluntary slaveholders."

Presbytery thinks that this is the way to serve God and do its duty, and set a precedent and example to this country and the Church for them in any way to copy or imitate, in their appropriate spheres?

"3d. Whether the solemn import of their ordination vows, and obligations as personal Christians, has been more honored or more violated by their individual action in this matter, which the Assembly forbears largely to characterize as it plainly deserves, but which the Assembly solemnly condemns; yet with still paternal or rather fraternal feelings, and in the name of the Great Head of the Church, commends to their reconsideration who have done this deed, and for which it is the prayer of the Assembly that God would give them the grace of repentance. See Form of Government, Chap. XIII., five Questions—answered; Chap. XV., eight [321] Questions—answered; and Chap. XII., sec. 5, with the powers and duties of the General Assembly.

"The Assembly also affectionately invokes the attention of the Synod of Utica, in a way of forbearance and wisdom, to the improper action of one of its Presbyteries, as above."

Also, an answer to a memorial on Forms of Worship, which was adopted, and is as follows:

"In reference to the subject of public worship, its forms of order and propriety in all our churches, and with the view of ultimate improvement, as related to the power of godliness and its advancement in them, as well as to greater uniformity and decorum in the public worship of God, especially on the Lord's day, and in the services of the sanctuary, the Committee having had their attention awakened to the subject by several communications, hereby recommend to the Assembly the adoption of the following results, viz.:

"1. That the importance of the subject is acknowledged and widely felt; with certain evils incidental that call for animadversion and correction from the judicatories of the Church, and seem to require of this Assembly to take the initiative, at least, in hope of ultimate benefits realized to all our community, as the result of wise and persevering measures to this end.

"2. That while the difficulties connected with the subject are great, in the vast and yet not homogeneous districts of our common country, the Assembly judges that they are not insurmountable; but, on the contrary, capable of complete removal, as the consequence of 'endeavoring earnestly to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace;' duly remembering that the Church is one, her interests one, and one her hope, her faith, and her final reward; while her ministry and her membership wisely and devoutly co-operate, with one heart and one mind, *ὁμοθυμαδὸν*, to this desired result; and remembering, too, that what cannot be finished in a day, may be begun in a day, and finished possibly and yet desirably in successive years; according to the grand canon of the Holy Ghost: 'Let all things be done decently and in order.'

"3. That the order of successive parts in public worship, posture in singing, in praying, and in hearing; the method of administration of the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and the whole exterior form of worship, admit of improvement, and in a good degree of uniformity, in our churches; and indeed properly require it, not the less, but rather the more, because of the admitted and the maintained superiority of spiritual worship, with which it is necessarily associated, and to it properly subordinated, as justly auxiliary and subservient. And

"4. That this whole subject be referred to a special *Committee*, to consider it gravely and at large, and mature and offer the results of their consideration in a *report to the next Assembly*."

The Rev. Harvey Curtis, S. W. Fisher, D. D., P. H. Fowler, Wm. Adams, D. D., and Charles H. Read, were appointed to this service.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented also a report on the subject of memorializing the Government in reference to the rights of conscience in foreign countries, which was referred to the Committee on Religious Liberty. [322]

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 26th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Half an hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

Messrs. R. P. Herbert, Elder, from the Presbytery of St. Joseph; and Calvin T. Hulburd, Elder, from the Presbytery of St. Lawrence, presented their credentials, and their names were placed upon the Roll of the Assembly.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave had been given to Messrs. John Mason, Charles S. Rogers, Asa L. Brooks, Ira B. Tuthill, J. P. Cumming, A. R. Riggs, Wm. Day, Samuel Ludy, H. S. Burton, C. N. Ordway, M. D., and H. Y. Slaymaker.

The Rev. S. G. Spees made a statement in reference to the Galena Theological Seminary.

The Committee appointed to nominate the Committee on Church Erection made a report, with a list of names as candidates for this office; and, with an amendment offered by the Rev. S. G. Spees, it was referred to the Committee on Church Extension.

The report on the subject of the formation of a *new Synod*, by the name of "The Synod of Susquehanna," was taken up for consideration, and, after some discussion, was referred to a special *Committee* consisting of Rev. Messrs. S. P. M. Hastings, J. F. Ingersoll, and A. P. Allen.

The Committee to whom was referred the report on "Delinquent Church Members," and also the memorial from the Presbytery of North River, made a report, the consideration of which was deferred, to await the report of the Committee appointed to examine the Records of the Synod of New York and New Jersey.

The reception of reports on the Synodical Records was made the order of the day for this P. M.

The consideration of the Overture on the subject of the marriage of a man with his sister's daughter, was made the second order of the day for this P. M.

The following resolution relative to the American Bible Society was adopted:—

"The General Assembly take pleasure in renewing the recommendations given by former Assemblies to the American Bible Society; and in view of the vastly increasing immigration to this country from foreign lands; the insidious, strenuous, combined and unremitting efforts of the papal hierarchy to exclude the Bible from our public and other schools; and the abundant facilities for a wide diffusion of the Scriptures afforded by the erection of a new Bible House, of the most ample dimensions, in the city of New York; the Assembly recommend that the ministers of our churches urge upon their people to contribute with increased liberality to the funds of this noble institution."

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [323]

Thursday, May 26th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to hear the reports of the Committees on the Synodical Records; and, on the recommendation of the respective Committees, the Records of the following Synods were approved as far as written:—Albany, Utica, Geneva, Genesee, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Ohio, Cincinnati, Indiana, Wabash, Illinois, Peoria, Missouri, Virginia, Tennessee, and West Tennessee.

The Records of the Synods of Kentucky, Western Reserve, and Mississippi were not present.

The Records of Michigan were present, but not written up.

The Records of the Synod of New York and New Jersey were approved, with the exception of the action of the Synod (p. 381) in relation to the course of the Presbytery of North River, in the case of delinquent church members.

The Rev. William Homes gave notice of a dissent from the foregoing exception.

The Committee to whom were referred the memorials on Slavery, made a report, the consideration of which was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures made a report on the subject of the Sabbath, which was adopted, and is as follows:

"The Assembly are at a loss what to say more than what they have repeatedly said, by way of urging on all our churches and congregations, and the community generally, a better observance of the holy Sabbath. Of its divine original and authority we have no doubt. Nor can we doubt its indisputable necessity in keeping up the institutions of religion, and in promoting the cause of salvation and pure morality. What could we do without the Sabbath? And where, in half a century, will be our glorious civil and religious liberty, if the terrible process of Sabbath-desecration be permitted to go on as it has done for the past ten years? Let the history of other nations answer. Let the fearful declarations of God's Word admonish us to anticipate the result. 'For the nation and kingdom that will not serve Thee shall perish.'

"While, therefore, we earnestly entreat our fellow-citizens of every class to 'remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy,' the Assembly do hereby, in a special manner, enjoin it upon the church sessions to watch over their brethren with tenderness and great fidelity in respect to the observance of the Sabbath; and to exercise wholesome discipline on those who, by traveling or other ways, presume to trample upon this sacred institution. And we further enjoin it upon the Presbyteries, annually to institute inquiries of the eldership, as to the manner in which this injunction has been attended to in their respective churches."

The Assembly proceeded to the election of the Committee on Church Erection. The Rev. Messrs. W. W. Atterbury and G. R. H. Shumway were appointed a Committee to collect and count the votes.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures made a report on the subject of "Sacred Music," which was referred to the Committee appointed to report to the next Assembly on the subject of "Forms of Worship." [324]

Also, a report on the subject of the Plan of Union, the consideration of which was deferred.

The Rev. John Perham, the Delegate from the General Conference of

Maine, after a brief address, to which the Moderator responded, respectfully took his leave.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

The annual sermon on Home Missions was preached before the members of the Assembly, on Thursday evening, in the North Presbyterian church, by the Rev. David B. Coe, according to appointment, from Matt. xxvi. 8: "To what purpose is this waste?"

Friday, May 27th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Half an hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee appointed to count the votes for members of the *Committee on Church Erection*, reported that the following persons had been almost unanimously elected, viz.: Rev. Albert Barnes, of Philadelphia; Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Rev. George L. Prentiss, of New York; Walter S. Griffith, Esq., of Brooklyn; Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., of Philadelphia; William E. Dodge, Esq., of New York; and Charles S. Wurts, Esq., of Philadelphia: together with the Stated and Permanent Clerks and the Treasurer of the Assembly, *ex officio*.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported the following Overture, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That the Clerks of the Assembly secure the translation and publication, in the German language, of the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church, and of some Book of Psalmody; provided the same can be done without expense to the General Assembly."

They also reported a minute in reference to the Commissioners' Fund, which was put upon the docket.

Also, on the subject of Romish Baptism, which was put upon the docket.

The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of the "Rights of Conscience and Religious Liberty," made a report, which was put upon the docket.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been given to Messrs. W. J. Cornell, William W. Collins, Felix Tracy, Lucius S. May, Mahlon T. Hewit, Samuel Small, S. V. R. Trowbridge, William R. Stevens, Luther F. Lyman, Elijah De Witt, M. D., and John McClure.

The Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., and the Elders, John M. Bradford and Hon. William Strong, were appointed a *Committee* to report *on the Legal Powers*, Claims, and Liabilities *of the General Assembly;* and also on the subject of the Funds of the Assembly generally; with discretionary powers to take such action in relation thereto as may be deemed advisable; and that they report to the next General Assembly. [325]

The Rev. William Homes, in behalf of himself and forty-three other Commissioners, in accordance with notice given yesterday, submitted the following dissent from the action of the Assembly on the report of the Committee on the Records of the Synod of New York and New Jersey:

"The undersigned, acting in the fear of God, and unfeignedly regardful of the interests of the Presbyterian Church and the just rights of its individual members, in the full belief that the action of the Assembly, in excepting to the Records of the Synod of New York and New Jersey, was erroneous in judgment, and may prove the sanction of future action mis-

chievous to the honor of the Church of Christ, involving principles injurious to the interests of religion, and subversive of the constitutional rights of the members of the Presbyterian Church, ask leave respectfully to dissent from the action above mentioned for the following reasons:—

"1. It concedes to the judicatories of the Church the right to inflict a judicial sentence upon members of churches, without a trial, contrary to the Form of Government, in which there is no authority whatever for sentence of any kind against such, without a fair and impartial trial—a citation and a hearing.

"2. It violates the constitutional rights of individuals, not less sacred in the Church than out of it, to such trial for any alleged offense before sentence of condemnation can be pronounced upon them; reversing also the principle of common law, that innocence is to be presumed of every individual, till proved guilty by due process of trial, he having fair opportunity to explain or defend.

"3. It is mischievous to the interests of justice, and the credit of religion, in that it establishes the principle, that, not only in the offense in question, but in any and every alleged offense, a judicatory may sit in judgment upon members of churches, and, without legitimate trial, record sentence of suspension or excommunication.

"4. Affording license as it does for such indiscriminate and unlimited illegal action, even if the course of the lower judicatory should be defined and limited to cases where sessions could know, that members had unworthily separated themselves from church association, yet sentence of suspension is utterly unwarranted in such cases, without a citation and a hearing; and, moreover, the difficulty in ascertaining the real facts, and the possibility of committing a mistake, are so manifest, that such a proceeding is to be discountenanced in all cases.

"5. By assuming that members of churches have absented themselves without good and sufficient reasons, when, in many cases, it is impossible that the judicatory should know any thing about it, it allows that a stigma may be inflicted upon members of the Church, worthy, and in other places fulfilling conspicuously their obligations as true and honorable members of Christ's Church universal, and upon others who are kings and priests unto God, in the New Jerusalem.

"6. Even if it be affirmed that such sentence of suspension, as is sanctioned by the action from which we regret to be compelled to dissent, entails no obloquy; yet the Form of Government knows nothing of a sentence of suspension from the honorable and precious privileges of church membership that does not imply guilt and reproach, and furnishes no authority for a sentence of condemnation without dishonor. [326]

"For these reasons, which seem to us to take deep hold of the foundations of justice and true religion in the Presbyterian Church, and believing that the offense for which it is implied that sentence of suspension may be pronounced without a trial, however, as we freely allow, it is one requiring the notice of church sessions, is not one so offensive to the honor of Christ, or destructive of the purity and edification of the Church, as to justify the alarming proceeding of a departure from the express enactment of our Form of Government, and an ignoring of those rights guaranteed by civil and ecclesiastical law, we beg leave to dissent from the action of the General Assembly, and to have these reasons spread upon the Minutes."

William Homes, John Bullard,
Washington Roosevelt, M. H. Dysart,

B. B. Beckwith,	Charles Brown,
Calvin T. Hulburd,	Frederick H. Brown,
Henry A. Rowland,	Hutchins Taylor,
E. A. Pitkin,	James V. Moore,
Moses Thacher,	E. H. Young,
George H. Hulin,	Alfred Ketcham,
A. D. Eddy,	William Torrey,
Samuel H. Cox,	Nicoll H. Dering,
N. E. Pierson,	W. E. Caldwell,
Moses Sawyer,	Epher Whitaker,
Daniel W. Poor,	H. G. Blinn,
T. M. Hopkins,	John Clouds,
S. P. M. Hastings,	S. C. Aiken,
Frederick A. Ross,	Hiram Gregg,
S. M. Sparks,	Stephen Whitaker,
J. C. Beach,	Sylvester Holmes,
Robert McLain,	S. N. Robinson,
Thomas Magruder,	G. M. Maxwell,
James A. Carnahan,	E. W. Tuttle,
W. H. Bird,	P. Barbour.

The Rev. Marcus Smith, Rev. E. J. Richards, Rev. J. C. Smith and Hon. William Strong, were appointed a Committee to answer the foregoing dissent, who subsequently presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows :—

"It is fully conceded and firmly maintained by the General Assembly, that in all cases where an offender can be reached by citation and brought to trial, it is the duty of the judicatory to which he is directly amenable to proceed against him according to the process prescribed by the Book of Discipline.

"But the action complained of by the dissentients relates to a very different class of cases. The individuals in question have absented themselves from the church with which they are connected, and after diligent inquiry cannot be found. They are, therefore, beyond the reach of citation. They cannot possibly be brought to trial. Shall the church, in such cases, be responsible for them? As they have placed themselves [327] beyond the oversight of the church, it is but reasonable that the church should be permitted to secure itself against any reproach which might come upon it from the conduct of such absentees.

"In accordance with these principles, the Constitution of our Church makes provision (Book of Discipline, Chapter XI.) for the case of absent church members. It relieves the church from the responsibility of sustaining a certificate of good standing when it has run on for more than one year. It implies that a church member may not absent himself a longer time from the ordinances, without a forfeiture of his good standing. In those cases, therefore, where individuals have absented themselves for years together, and after the most diligent inquiry cannot be found, it is but right that the session of the church to which they are amenable should make entry of the fact on their records, and declare such persons to have forfeited their good standing, until they return and account for their absence. Such was the judgment of the Assembly of 1825, with which this Assembly perfectly accords."

The Rev. S. Holmes moved a reconsideration of the action of the Assembly in reference to the Records of the Synod of New York and New Jersey.

The motion was lost.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz., the consideration of the report on Slavery.

A motion was made to adopt the report.

Rev. F. A. Ross, D. D., moved an amendment.

The Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., moved a postponement of the question before the house, to take up a substitute.

Rev. E. J. Newlin moved an indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

Before the question was taken, the Assembly adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 27th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the consideration of the report on Slavery, was resumed; the question being on the motion for an indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

The discussion occupied the afternoon until 5½ o'clock, when the previous question was called for and carried; and the whole subject under discussion was indefinitely postponed.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported a List of Supplies for the pulpits of this city and vicinity, on the next Lord's day, viz.:

First Presbyterian Church—Rev. S. H. Cox, D. D., A. M.; Rev. F. A. Ross, D. D., P. M.

North Presbyterian Church—Rev. E. F. Hatfield, D. D., A. M.; Rev. E. J. Richards, P. M. [328]

Lafayette Street Presbyterian Church—Rev. F. A. Ross, D. D., A. M.; Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., P. M.

Westminster Presbyterian Church—Rev. T. A. Mills, A. M.

Eastern Presbyterian Church—Rev. P. B. Parrey, A. M.; Rev. T. A. Mills, P. M.

Central Presbyterian Church—Rev. Jeremiah Porter, A. M.; Rev. A. J. Fennell, P. M.

First Baptist Church—Rev. George M. Maxwell, A. M.; Rev. E. C. Pritchett, P. M.

Niagara Street Baptist Church—Rev. T. M. Hopkins, P. M.

Michigan Street Baptist Church—Rev. George R. Moore and Rev. E. H. Gillett.

Pearl Street Methodist Church—Rev. A. T. Norton, A. M.; Rev. F. Putnam, P. M.

Niagara Street Methodist Church—Rev. Gideon S. White, A. M.; Rev. Lysander Kelsey, P. M.

Swan Street Methodist Church—Rev. W. W. Atterbury, A. M.; Rev. T. Magruder, P. M.

Hydraulic Methodist Church—Rev. C. Anderson, A. M.; Rev. Wm. E. Caldwell, P. M.

Lancaster Presbyterian Church—Rev. H. E. Blinn.

Scotch Presbyterian Church—Rev. Marcus Smith and Rev. Charles S. Renshaw.

Pearl Street Free Baptist Church—Rev. J. Monteith and Rev. B. B. Beckwith.

Elk Street Methodist Church—Rev. W. Roosevelt.

Considerable dissatisfaction having been expressed at the summary close

of the discussion on the subject of Slavery, the action of the Assembly was reconsidered, and the further disposal of the question was deferred until Monday next.

Adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

The Assembly met, on Sabbath evening, in the North Presbyterian church, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and, in union with a large number of Christians who accepted the invitation to participate with them, united in the celebration of this ordinance in the order previously appointed.

Monday, May 30th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The usual time was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Rev. Mr. Pinney, secretary of the New York State Colonization Society, was permitted to address the Assembly in behalf of that institution.

The Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., Rev. J. Monteith, and Elder [329] W. S. Griffith, were appointed a Committee to express the views of the Assembly in reference to that Society.

At a subsequent period the following resolutions were presented, and unanimously adopted:

"The Committee appointed to draft a minute and resolutions relative to Colonization, and the desirableness of a recognition of the republic of Liberia by the Government of the United States, report as follows:

"The enterprise of Colonization has been before the American people about forty years, and has been thoroughly discussed. Whatever diversity of views may prevail as to its capacity or incapacity, its effect or lack of effect upon the subject of a final abolition of slavery, your Committee believe that very little diversity exists as to the fact, that a great practical blessing to Africa, and a real social and civil benefit to the emigrant colonists, have resulted from the establishment of the republic of Liberia. By it, the colored man, removed from those impediments which in this land hindered the full and immediate development of his capabilities for self-government, has been enabled at once, on a theatre to which the eyes of the civilized world are turned, to demonstrate them beyond the power of disputation, and thus to exert a mighty moral influence for the benefit and elevation of his race. By it, schools, churches, the Christian Sabbath, regulated government, freedom, have been set up upon the shores of a barbarous, despotic, superstitious continent, and are sending abroad their benign influences from year to year, in an ever-increasing measure.

"Thirty years after the organization of the first Colonization Society, the colony of Liberia, yet feeble, was compelled to set forth its Declaration of Rights, and to assume the constitutional organization of an independent republic. This event, which marks an era in the history of Africa and her children, occurred in 1846; since which period, with a rapidity which has exceeded the anticipations of the most sanguine minds, this new nation has been steadily acquiring strength and respectability.

"The nations of Europe answered the appeal of this rising State, and cordially encouraged it by liberal treaties and an open recognition. We regret to say, that our own Government has not hitherto afforded to it the same moral support. A strange anomaly is seen in the fact, that the great republic of the North, looked to for sympathy and support by all people struggling for liberty, fails to afford sympathy or acknowledgment to a sis-

ter republic, whose origin, whose similarity of form, and whose successful attempt at self-government, it should seem, would make the claim almost imperative.

"In view of such facts and considerations, the Committee recommend the following resolutions to be adopted as the sense of this Assembly:

"1. That the original project of Colonization, so far as it proposed to introduce civilization, free government, and Christianity among the people of Africa, merits, as it has already received, the cordial approbation and friendly sympathy of the Presbyterian Church.

"2. That, as Christians and Americans, we look with delight upon the success already achieved, in the rescue of more than five hundred miles of sea-coast from the manifold crimes and miseries which the slave-trade inflicted upon it, and in the successful organization and administration of [330] republican government by the emigrants to Liberia, thus triumphantly vindicating their capacity for the highest duties of society.

"3. That, in view of the origin of the people of Liberia, of the entire correspondence of their laws and Constitution with our own, and of their rapidly-growing commerce and greatness, their republic has peculiar claims, both of justice and policy, for an open recognition by the American Government; and that we sincerely regret that the empires of France and Brazil, and the monarchies of England and Russia and Belgium, have been permitted to anticipate the action of our country.

"4. That whenever colored emigrants, already free, or offered liberty by their masters at the South, on the condition of their emigrating, solicit aid to reach Liberia, we cordially recommend them to the sympathies and assistance of the churches under our care."

Resolved, That at least seventeen hundred copies of the Minutes of the Assembly, with the Appendix, be published under the direction of the Stated Clerk, and that a copy be sent to each of the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries and Synods; also that they be furnished to applicants at the rate of thirty cents a copy.

The Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Standing Committee for the preparation and publication of Doctrinal Tracts, reported the following resolutions, which were adopted:

"1. That the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Albert Barnes, and Mr. Samuel T. Bodine, whose term of service on the Committee has expired, be re-elected.

"2. That the Rev. George Chandler and Samuel H. Perkins, Esq., of Philadelphia, be added to the Committee.

"3. That the rule requiring the unanimous consent of the Committee for the publication of any book or tract, be so modified, that a majority of three-fourths only shall be required.

"4. That the Committee be authorized to take such measures as they may deem advisable, to secure the necessary funds for the erection of a house of publication.

"5. That it be earnestly recommended to all our churches to take up collections, annually or otherwise, in aid of the publishing fund under the control of this Committee.

"6. That we suggest to the Publication Committee the desirableness of issuing, as soon as practicable, a few tracts which shall clearly and distinctly exhibit our peculiar views of doctrine, government and missionary policy, with a view to answer the calumnies against us, and show our true position in the Church and in the world."

The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of the erection of a new

Synod, to be called the Synod of Susquehanna, made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

"1. The Presbyteries requesting the action of the Assembly occupy a large and important territory, sufficiently large and important for a separate Synod.

"2. There is a sufficient number of ministers and churches connected with those Presbyteries, to warrant the formation of the proposed Synod; and,

"3. The geographical position of the members of those Presbyteries is [331] such as to render it almost impossible for them to attend the meetings of their respective Synods.

"The Committee would further report, that two of the three Synods more particularly interested on this subject, viz., the Synods of Geneva and Albany, make no objections to the erection of the proposed Synod, and the objection made by the Synod of Utica is, mainly, that it will reduce their number.

"While the Committee think that the Presbyteries of Otsego and Delaware should have consulted their respective Synods in reference to the matter, yet, in view of the importance of the proposed change, they would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Presbyteries of Otsego, Chenango, and Delaware, belonging respectively to the Synods of Utica, Geneva, and Albany, be, and they hereby are, constituted into a new Synod, to be called "The Synod of Susquehanna;" to hold their first meeting at Franklin, Delaware Co., N. Y., on the third Thursday of October next, at 2 o'clock P. M.; opening with a sermon from the oldest minister present, who shall preside until a Moderator shall be elected."

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been given to the following members of the Assembly, viz.: Messrs. R. A. Avery, M. Thacher, F. S. Gaylord, D. Murdock, D. D., E. T. Ball, S. Fleming, E. Bushnell, J. C. Beach, W. W. Whipple, J. C. Smith, E. J. Newlin, G. W. Nichols, D. D. Warner, W. R. Shepherd, M. Sawyer, Wm. Strong, J. Clouds, J. M. Paul, M. D., Wm. Hubbard, J. Kennan, J. Rice, J. McClure, J. V. Moore, J. D. Armstrong, F. W. Andrews.

The unfinished business of Friday, viz., the consideration of the report on the subject of Slavery, was resumed.

The Committee, to whom that subject had been referred, asked leave to withdraw the former report, and present another in a modified shape. Leave was granted. The former report was withdrawn, and a new one presented.

A motion was made that it be adopted, which was under consideration until 12½ o'clock, when the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 30th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

The Committee on Church Extension made a report in relation to the correspondence with the A. H. M. Society, which was put upon the docket.

They reported, also, an additional paper, on the subject of Church Extension, which was adopted, and is as follows:

"The papers which have been placed in our hands contain abundant evidence, that most of the Presbyteries and individual churches in our connection have welcomed, with joy, the efforts commenced within the past few years to develop and call forth the slumbering energies of our branch of the Church, in doing more effectually her part in the work of making this great

land a fair and glorious province in Jehovah's empire. We would recommend, therefore, the adoption of the following resolutions: [332]

"1. That each church and pastor in our connection be earnestly requested to give renewed attention to the work of church extension—searching out pious young men of promising talents, and encouraging them to seek the gospel ministry; exploring vacant fields, and aiding in the organization of new churches; and, in every department of Christian beneficence, striving to do, to the utmost of their ability, whatever may enlarge the kingdom of Christ, and bring new subjects under his sway.

"2. That the Assembly regard, with lively interest, the efforts which are now being made to plant religious institutions on our Pacific coast; and, that it may be furnished with definite information on this subject, the Presbytery of San Francisco be, and it is hereby, requested, if not greatly inconvenient, to send a Commissioner to the next General Assembly; or, if this be not practicable, then that the said Presbytery be requested to forward to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly a full statement of the religious condition and prospects of California, and, as far as they may be able, of Oregon also;—the number and condition of our churches on that coast, and what, in their judgment, may best be done to increase their number and efficiency; and further, that the Stated Clerk of the Assembly be requested to forward a notice of this action to the Presbytery."

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the subject of Slavery, was resumed; the motion being to adopt the report.

Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., moved the postponement of the report, to take up a substitute which he presented.

The discussion was continued until 6 o'clock P. M., when the Assembly adjourned until a quarter before 8 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 30th, 7¾ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The unfinished business was resumed, viz.: the discussion on the subject of Slavery; the question being on the postponement of the report, to take up a substitute.

The motion to postpone was lost.

Rev. H. A. Rowland moved to postpone with a view to introduce another substitute. After discussion, this motion also was lost.

The question was then taken on the adoption of the report of the Committee. The Ayes and Noes were demanded and ordered as follows:

AYES: Gillette, Willett, Barbour, Bishop, Fennell, Barnes, Burton, Redfield, M. Smith, Pritchett, Hulin, Anderson, Shumway, Tuttle, Bradford, Robinson, Osborne, Perkins, Gregg, Fisk, Reilly, Thompson, Hodge, Wakeman, Bodle, Pierson, Mandeville, E. Wells, Hatfield, Gillett, Cook, Griffith, Richards, Renshaw, G. R. Moore, Read, Fritts, McMaster, Clark, Parrey, Herbert, Monteith, Atterbury, C. J. Pitkin, F. H. Brown, Wood, Walton, Knapp, Little, Cooley, J. W. Thompson, Lee, Kelsey, Allen, Moores, Newton, Carey, Mitchell, Safford, Maxwell, Milligan, Chase, Buchanan, Carnahan, Mudge, Conrad, Rhodes, Rankin, Ballard, Young, Palmer, Norton, Saunders, Bird, Jones, Beaman, Fisk, Miller, Specs, Curtis, Taylor, McArthur, Niles, Mills,—84. [333]

NAYS: Beckwith, Hulburd, Ingersoll, Dering, Hastings, A. H. Wells, Hoyt, Shepherd, Blinn, Whitaker, Roosevelt, Freeman, Cox, A. D. Eddy, Poor, Ketcham, Rowland, Handy, C. Brown, Jewell, Gilbert, Sparks, E. A. Pitkin, C. Eddy, Kile, Spencer, Homes, Ferguson, Morgan, Torrey, O.

Magruder, White, Ross, Caldwell, Dysart, Brantly, Tarbet, T. Magruder, Merwin,—39.

Non Liquet: S. Holmes,—1.

So the report of the Committee was adopted, and is as follows:

"The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of Slavery, respectfully report, that twelve memorials touching this grave matter, from various Synods and Presbyteries, have been put into their hands. Of these, eleven are from the North, praying the Assembly for farther action, and asking for precise information in regard to the extent of the practice of slaveholding in our body, and in regard also to certain alleged aggravations of it, in the unchristian and cruel treatment of slaves. One is from the South, complaining of unkindness and injustice on the part of many Northern brethren, in charging upon the memorialists practices of which they are not guilty, and in attributing to them motives which they utterly disclaim and abominate; protesting also against the continued agitation of this subject, as tending more to rivet than to loose the chains of the slave, and seriously to embarrass them in their gospel work.

"Your Committee, after much serious and prayerful consideration of this whole subject in all its complicated and perplexing relations, and with a solemn sense of responsibility to God and to his Church, are of one mind in recommending to the Assembly the following action:

"1. That this body re-affirm the doctrine of the 2d resolution adopted by the Assembly in its action at Detroit in 1850.

"2. That we do earnestly exhort and beseech all those who are happily free from any personal connection with the institution of Slavery, to exercise patience and forbearance towards their brethren less favored in this respect than themselves, remembering the embarrassments of their position; and to cherish for them that fraternal confidence and love which they the more need in consequence of the peculiar trials by which they are surrounded.

"3. To correct misapprehensions which may exist in many Northern minds, and allay causeless irritation, by having the real facts in relation to this subject spread before the whole Church, it is recommended earnestly to request the Presbyteries in each of the slaveholding States, to take such measures as may seem to them most expedient and proper, for laying before the next Assembly, in its sessions at Philadelphia, distinct and full statements touching the following points:

"(1.) The number of slaveholders in connection with the churches under their jurisdiction, and the number of slaves held by them.

"(2.) The extent to which slaves are held by an unavoidable necessity 'imposed by the laws of the States, the obligations of guardianship, and the demands of humanity.'

"(3.) Whether a practical regard, such as the word of God requires, is evinced by the Southern churches for the sacredness of the conjugal and parental relations as they exist among slaves; whether baptism is duly administered to the children of slaves professing Christianity; [334] whether slaves are admitted to equal privileges and powers in the church courts: and, in general, to what extent and in what manner provision is made for the religious well-being of the enslaved."

The Rev. F. A. Ross, D. D., gave notice of a protest against the foregoing decision.

Leave was given to absentees to record their names, if they please, to-morrow morning.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 31st, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Devotional exercises occupied the usual time. After which the Minutes of the last evening session were read and approved.

The report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, relative to the Plan of Union, was taken up for consideration, and indefinitely postponed.

Rev. H. A. Rowland presented the following protest, for himself and others, against the decision of the Assembly on the subject of Slavery:

"We, the undersigned, protest against the action of the General Assembly on the subject of Slavery, because we deem the measures proposed to be in conflict with the principles of our Constitution, which secure to every man that he should be treated as innocent of crime, until proved guilty; and we believe that the General Assembly has no constitutional power to commence process in the case, or to take steps which have that aspect and tendency; and, where there is no constitutional power, there ought not to be a disposition to vex and annoy.

"We therefore believe that the brethren in our Southern Synods, Presbyteries and churches, ought not to treat with any respect inquiries proposed without authority, for the purpose of eliciting facts in view of which process in future might be commenced, should such facts be ascertained, and happen to conflict with the unscriptural and unconstitutional views of those who voted in the affirmative of this question.

"If it should be disavowed that there is any design to elicit facts for the purpose of commencing process in future, then we protest against this action as calculated to annoy our Southern brethren, and restrict the Christian usefulness of those who are laboring as the ministers of Christ in our Southern churches.

"We furthermore protest against the action of this Assembly because it does not give the true sense of the Delegates from the Presbyteries who have composed this Assembly. On Friday last the whole subject was indefinitely postponed by a large majority, while the house was yet full. After this, many of the Commissioners left, and the vote for the action against which we protest was carried by the votes of 84 members only, who are a minority of the whole number of members who have been in attendance on these sessions."

Fred. A. Ross,	E. T. Brantly,
Henry A. Rowland,	S. P. M. Hastings,
A. D. Eddy,	Wm. H. Spencer,
William Homes,	B. B. Beckwith,
Isaac W. K. Handy,	Charles Brown.
E. W. Gilbert,	[335]

Rev. S. H. Cox, D. D., also presented the following protest against the same act:—

"Against the whole of the above measure, the undersigned claim their constitutional right to record their protest, 'bearing their testimony against what they deem a mischievous and an erroneous judgment' in the matter of Slavery, as implicating some twenty or more of the Presbyteries of our connection, and the churches and people under their care; nay, as implicating fifteen sovereign States of our national Union: and for the reasons in general that to them the action seems unconstitutional, innovating, useless, of irritating tendency, and adapted properly to answer no salutary end, but to do evil only; establishing a precedent of multifarious mischief and abuse in practice.

"1. It is unconstitutional.

"As a whole, we view the document as a virtual process commenced against the parties on the ground of common fame; and not less such a process because of its soft words of request and courtesy, instead of a formal mandamus, or a search-warrant, or other inquisitorial methods of accusation or impeachment. Its relations and consequences are much the same, looking like a lamb, and taking special care, it would seem, not to speak as a dragon.

"If such a measure is authorized at all by the Book, it must be, as avowedly it is, under the head of General Review and Control, subsection six; since, in all other cases, common fame refers alone to individuals and their offenses, as related to specific charges; while here it relates alone to judicatories and their records under review, as defective or complete, as praiseworthy or censurable; and since the measure above pursued is palpably far enough removed, in form, in nature and in object, from what is there prescribed as 'the first step to be taken,' with the next step, and the last step, of the entire prescription. The diversity is singular, if not astonishing.

"2. It is innovation—a novelty in our ecclesiastical history, and equally unknown to the style and the method of all our precedents; and so commencing a series of uncertain and portentous novelties.

"3. Its proper use is very questionable; and is not approved by the protesters as a product of that 'wisdom which is profitable to direct.' Indeed—

"4. We view it as adapted to irritate, rather than reform, in every aspect and promise of it. Is it probable that it will do any good to our Southern brethren? Can they execute its provisions? Will they honor its propriety, or respond with reverence to its scope and aim? Will they feel its power, or see its rectitude, or admit its basis, or sanction its precedent, or favor its mission? The catechumens probably know their own rights and their own duties, without all auxiliary influence of the sort we disapprove.

"5. It seems more than to imply that the law-relation of Slavery sustained is criminal *per se*, and therefore authorizing judicial inquest in the matter; which the undersigned know to be both false and absurd; and also as implying that Slavery is so the sin of sins in our age and country, as comparatively to eclipse or surpass all others. Whereas,

"6. A *fama clamosa*, more specific and credible, accuses men, and [336] members of our churches, at the North, of crimes that are crimes, of many and various crimes; virtually breaking the fourth and the tenth commandment together, through the spirit of cupidity in railroad stock, for example; to speak of no others. Yet this crusade against the South seems to us, if not perhaps a monomania, yet a monopoly, partial, vexatious, adapted to exasperate them, worse in its associations and its multiform relations than it is in itself, and substantially declared to be only the harbinger, in the way of determinate progress, of other measures, ulterior and still progressive, as adapted, we solemnly believe, to rive both the Church and the nation, in their proper consequences.

"7. Believing the word of God to be the Constitution of our Church, the grand original basis of every other basis that is just and true, and that every member of the Assembly is in a paramount sense solemnly sworn to it; the undersigned, believing also that the word of God speaks fully and expressly on this identical topic, believe as well that this whole system of ecclesiastical agitation and action violates that word, acts in the face and eyes of its supreme legislation, and is justly obnoxious to its stern and terrible rebukes, especially 1 Tim. vi. 1–6, peculiarly verses 4–6. They believe also that the word of God gives our judicatories no jurisdiction over the Constitutions of the State; proposing to supersede war, slavery, heresy, and every other evil, less by direct and belligerent attack and fight with them, than by

the indirect but certain influence of religion, propagated and ascendent in the world. They believe that there is a grand and a normal difference in nature between anti-ism and pro-ism; that the gospel is less anti-error than pro-truth; that the way to get darkness out, is to put light in—and not to waste the strength of the Church in a vain war on darkness; while the example of the Son of God, and his holy apostles in their evangelization, and his primitive Church in all her practic influence, sustain our positions, never attacking slavery in this way at all; recognizing slaves and slaveholders as in good standing, members together of the Church, 'faithful and beloved;' and so prescribing their mutual duties, see Eph. vi. 5–8, and 1 Pet. ii. 18–20, without the least particle of war on Cæsar's government, or anti-slavery agitation, either exemplified or allowed there.

"8. We consider this whole action as not only a usurpation of jurisdiction, but as very liable to be misunderstood both by the Church and the country; as seemingly partial and pragmatical, and so injurious to our brethren on whom it so heavily bears, with whom it is so impracticable, and who have so justly complained of it, as well as patiently borne it, through a series of years, still attached, and grieved, and adhering.

"9. We judge the Presbyterian Church in this country to be, and by necessity of its nature ever to have been, in favor of universal liberty; yet less an anti-slavery than a pro-freedom Church; and that the Bible properly sanctions not Slavery, nor patronizes oppression in any one of its million forms ever extant on earth in its wickedness,—our protest having for its scope and object this general method and system of ecclesiastical action, which we cannot approve as wise or right, or apostolical and scriptural in its character; even while, in the present instance, we might, in other relations, approve of many of its sentiments and parts, and would wish to do all justice to the motives of our brethren who [337] enacted it, and who, no doubt, verily think they do God service in the measure.

"10. In all this we act identically on the principles which distinguished our Presbyterian fathers in the Church, touching this matter; and though we do it not because they did it, yet it is not to be a cheap memory with us that such illustrious dead, who were so lately the living, as Richards, Alexander, Miller, Blackburn, Rice, Professor Stuart, and in Europe Welsh, Chalmers, and a host of others, stars of the first magnitude in the firmament of the Church, and whose fame is now finished and sacred as well as pure, thought with us, held with us, and acted with us, in these very relations. Regretting the length of this paper, we end it, however, with a few quotations from Chalmers, which, we think, are words of Christian wisdom, whatever in the contrast may be the seeming or the assumption of others: 'Neither war nor slavery is incompatible with the personal Christianity of those who have personally and actually to do with them. Distinction ought to be made between the character of a system and the character of the persons whom circumstances have implicated with it. We hope that our Church will never deviate to the right or the left of undoubted principles. But we hope, on the other hand, that she will not be frightened from her propriety, or forced by clamor of any sort to outrun her own conviction, so as to adopt, at the bidding of other parties, a new and factitious principle of administration, for which she can see no authority in Scripture, and of which she can gather no trace in the history or the practice of the churches in apostolic times. But I must repeat my conviction that Slavery will not be at all shaken—it will be strengthened and stand its ground—if assailed through the medium of that most questionable and ambiguous principle which the abolitionists are now laboring to force upon our accept-

ance, even that the slaveholding is in itself a ground of exclusion from the Christian sacraments. * * * * * * Not only is there a wrong principle involved in the demands which these abolitionists now make on the Church, it is hurtful in effect. Should we concede to their demands, then, speaking in the terms of our opinion, we incur the discredit, and in proportion to that discredit we damage our usefulness as a Church, of having given in—and at the bidding of another party—to a factitious and new principle, which not only wants, but which contravenes, the authority of Scripture and of apostolic example; and, indeed, has only been heard of in Christendom within these few years, as if gotten up for an occasion, instead of being drawn from the repositories of that truth which is immutable and eternal—even the principle that no slaveholder should be admitted to a participation in the Christian sacraments.'"

David W. Ferguson,	Henry G. Blinn,
William Torrey,	A. H. Wells,
Epher Whitaker,	Samuel H. Cox,
Gideon S. White,	Fred. A. Ross,
W. E. Caldwell,	William Homes,
Wm. H. Spencer,	William Kile,
Otho Magruder,	Nicoll H. Dering,
S. C. Aiken,	John F. Ingersoll, [338]
Danl. W. Poor,	Isaac W. K. Handy,
E. T. Brantly,	S. P. M. Hastings,
W. Roosevelt,	Chuncey Eddy,
A. D. Eddy,	Samuel Jefferson,
B. B. Beckwith,	Charles Merwin.

These protests were referred to the Committee on Slavery, to bring in an answer; who subsequently presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

"The Committee, to whom was assigned the duty of replying to the protests which have been offered against the action adopted by this body on the subject of Slavery, finding the chief positions of the protestants to be confined to two points, viz.: its constitutionality and its tendency to excite agitation, limit themselves to these in their replication.

"The Assembly, in the exercise of its declaratory power, in the action had at Detroit in 1850, discriminates between the system of Slavery as established by law, and the mere relation of master and slave itself. In re-affirming that action, the present Assembly express the views of by far the larger portion of our Church, and in no way conflicts with the sentiments of the Rev. Dr. Chalmers, as quoted in one of the protests: but does now maintain, and has in all time past maintained, the broad distinction between the iniquity of a system, and the character of individuals whose circumstances may have involved them therein. Such is the spirit of the further action now proposed; and it is expressly disavowed as the initiative of discipline, or intended to be used in future for that purpose. Any facts, elicited by the request made to the Presbyteries, are not to be taken as testimony in the case of actual process; and coming, as they would, from a party voluntarily, and for a specified purpose, reporting them, they could not be used, under the Constitution of the Church, or the laws of the country, as competent evidence. But it is competent at all times for this body, in the exercise of its powers of general review and control, without infringing the Constitution, to elicit information tending to promote the peace, purity, and unity of the Church. Without transcending its constitutional powers,

it has made a simple request of the Presbyteries, leaving it to their option to refuse or comply.

"How the development of facts calculated to correct misapprehensions on the one hand, and allay agitation on the other, is unwise, the Committee frankly confess themselves unable to see. And, as the protestants have given us merely the assertion, without the reasons for this opinion, we deem it unnecessary to bestow upon it further notice. A Southern Presbytery complains of unjust statements and conduct on the part of certain Northern Presbyteries and Synods. In the spirit of fraternal confidence, we invite this Presbytery, and all others in like circumstances, to present the facts in the case. And, in doing this, the Assembly do but perform an act of justice alike to the South and the North; and in its action utterly disavows the assumption of guilt on the part of the slaveholding portions of the Church; and with this view declares the construction given to its action by the protestants to be erroneous and unfounded."

Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., moved the appointment of a Committee of [339] Conference with a view, if possible, to effect a compromise between those of different sentiments in reference to the action of the Assembly on Slavery.

After some discussion, the resolution was withdrawn.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave had been given to Messrs. M. Smith, N. M. Wells, A. T. Norton, L. R. Booth, T. M. Hopkins, T. Magruder, W. L. Tarbet, M. H. Dysart, J. F. Read, W. Burton, J. M. Reeder, S. Jefferson, W. M. Safford, G. W. Rhodes, E. McArthur, J. Clark, E. Wells, J. Fritts, and O. Magruder.

Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., moved the appointment of a special Committee to express the common sentiment of this body on the general subject of Slavery.

This also was withdrawn.

The report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures in answer to the two questions, "May a man, in accordance with the teachings of the Scriptures, marry a daughter of his own sister?" and "When members of the Church have contracted such a marriage, may they still retain their standing in the Church?" was taken up for consideration.

A motion was made for indefinite postponement, which was lost.

The report of the Committee was postponed; and the following substitute, proposed by Rev. S. P. M. Hastings, was adopted:

"*Resolved*, 1. That the first question be answered in the negative, such marriages being evidently contrary to the teachings of the Scriptures, and incestuous. See Lev. xviii. 6, 12, 13.

"*Resolved*, 2. That the second question in the Overture be answered as follows, viz.: In the judgment of this Assembly, such a connection as is contemplated by the Overture demands the judicial action of the Church, and, if not repented of, should incur Church censure."

One hundred copies of a tract on the Atonement were received from the secretary of the Publication Committee, and were distributed among the members of the Assembly.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported the following resolution on the subject of Temperance, which was adopted:

"The cause of Temperance, in our nation and in our age, the Assembly judges to be permanently worthy of the high estimation of all men, both as patriots and as Christians. To arrest the progress and supersede the ravages of drunkenness is still a great practical object, obligatory on the Church and the country; and is to be prosecuted steadily and on principle, with prayer and purpose. And the question of invoking the power of legis-

lation in the cause, much after the example of the State of Maine, is becoming more the question of the age, and is considered worthy of the profound attention and ultimate favor of our statesmen and fellow-citizens in every part of the Union."

The same Committee reported an Overture on the subject of Dancing.

Pending the discussion on the adoption of this report, the Assembly adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [340]

Tuesday, May 31st, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Judicial Committee presented their report, congratulating the Assembly that not a single case of appeal or complaint had been brought to their notice, which was adopted.

Resolved, That the Publication Committee be requested to take measures for the multiplication of copies of the Confession of Faith; and also to publish an edition of the Form of Government in a separate volume.

The unfinished business, the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures, on Dancing, was resumed.

The report of the Committee was postponed, and the resolutions of the Assembly of 1843 were re-affirmed, as follows:

"*Resolved*, That the fashionable amusement of promiscuous dancing is so entirely unscriptural, and eminently and exclusively that of the 'world which lieth in wickedness,' and so wholly inconsistent with the spirit of Christ, and with that propriety of Christian deportment, and that purity of heart which his followers are bound to maintain, as to render it not only improper and injurious for professing Christians either to partake in it, or to qualify their children for it by teaching them the art; but also to call for the faithful and judicious exercise of discipline on the part of church sessions, when any of the members of their churches have been guilty."

The Assembly proceeded to consider the report on the correspondence with the American Home Missionary Society.

The report of the Committee, after being amended, was adopted, and is as follows:

"The Committee of Conference with the American Home Missionary Society report as follows:

"That they have been much gratified in receiving the assurance, from this correspondence, and from personal conference with the Rev. D. B. Coe, one of the secretaries of the American Home Missionary Society, that said Society has no disposition to interfere in any wise with the ecclesiastical functions of the Synods and Presbyteries; but rather, in just so far as it can, consistent with its organization and principles as a voluntary Association, to blend its agency with theirs in the promotion of the one great common object—the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom. The Missionary Committee of each Presbytery is recognized by the Society as the appropriate body to certify the wants of any particular church seeking aid, the standing of the minister and his prospects of usefulness, and to endorse and recommend the application.

"The Society utterly disclaims any purpose of permitting its agents to interfere with the ecclesiastical relations of the churches; or to overrule the recommendations of the Presbyterial Missionary Committees; or the intention to make any discrimination in the appropriations in favor of one denomination and against another.

"The long connection which has existed between our churches and the American Home Missionary Society, as the receiving and disbursing agent of the churches in carrying forward their domestic missionary [341] work; the efficiency with which the Society has performed its duties, and the general impartiality and fidelity with which it has discharged its important and sometimes difficult trust; force upon us the conviction that our Home Missionary work can be more successfully prosecuted, in existing circumstances, under our present arrangements, than by any new organization.

"At the same time, we are fully satisfied that the rules of the Society, well designed, and undoubtedly wise and beneficial in their general working, do, nevertheless, sometimes prevent the extension of the Gospel under its auspices, in many of our new and rapidly-growing cities and towns of the West, in cases where the importance of the work, and the incalculable good which might result therefrom, demand some aid. We are aware, also, that the recent revival of denominational zeal, which has occurred, will render the continued co-operation of different sister denominations in the missionary work much more delicate and difficult than heretofore, and may occasion injustice to be done through subordinate agents, without intention to do so on the part of the Executive Committee of the Society. Mutual forbearance, however, and that charity which the apostle commends to his Corinthian brethren, and that fear of God which will lead one to suffer rather than inflict a wrong, may, we believe, enable the co-operating parties to continue thus their joint labors happily and successfully, cultivating also, thereby, the most difficult graces, by often exercising them.

"*Resolved*, That a Committee of Conference be raised to confer with the Executive Committees of the American Home Missionary Society, and of the Philadelphia Home Missionary Society, for the purpose of ascertaining what arrangements can be made for the relief of feeble churches at the West, and in other destitute places, which may not be provided for by any existing rules of the American Home Missionary Society."

The *Committee of Conference* are Rev. Messrs. A. D. Eddy, D. D., S. T. Spear, D. D., J. W. McLane, D. D., A. Barnes, T. Brainerd, D. D., and E. W. Gilbert, D. D.

The Rev. S. G. Spees, from the Committee on the Narrative, presented their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

A communication from Rev. J. C. Paine, Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, to this body, apologizing for his unavoidable absence, was received and read.

Also from Rev. R. A. Smith, Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire, making report of his attendance, which was ordered to be published in the Appendix.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient for the Assembly to proceed to the election of Trustees of the General Assembly and Directors of the Theological Seminaries, for the present year.

The travelling expenses of the Delegate to Vermont and of the Delegate to New Hampshire, the janitor's bill, the bill for printing and stationery, the salary and mileage of the Clerks, were allowed and ordered to be paid.

The Committee appointed by the last Assembly to report in reference [342] to the formation of Presbyteries in foreign lands, not being prepared to report, were continued, and directed to report to the next Assembly.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported an Overture from the 3d Presbytery of New York, which is as follows: "Is baptism, as administered by the Roman Catholic Church, to be regarded as Christian

baptism?" and recommended that this inquiry be referred to a Committee to consider the subject, and report an answer to the next General Assembly.

The report was adopted, and Rev. E. F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. S. H. Cox, D. D., and Rev. H. B. Smith, D. D., were appointed the Committee.

The same Committee reported in reference to the plan of raising the Commissioners' Fund proposed by the last Assembly, recommending that no action be taken on the subject; but that the Presbyteries be careful to see that the churches make liberal annual contributions, both to the Commissioners' and Contingent Funds of the Assembly.

The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported on the propriety of memorializing the Government to protect the *Rights of Conscience* in foreign nations, recommending the appointment of a *Committee* to act on the subject in the intervals of the Assembly.

The report was adopted, and Hon. Wm. Jessup, LL.D., Hon. Wm. Darling, and Hon. Daniel Haines, were appointed the Committee.

The Committee on Religious Liberty presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:—

"The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America most gratefully recognize the providence, that has given them an existence in a country distinguished, from its origin, for its love and defense of the principles of civil and religious liberty.

"With these principles, the genius, spirit, and aims of our ecclesiastical polity are consonant and co-operative; and for their preserving and extension we would ever pray and labor; that, while in their enjoyment ourselves, we may encourage their recognition, adoption, and meliorating tendencies every where.

"This General Assembly would recognize and avow the solemn obligations of all men to respect the private, social, religious, and civil rights of each other, in each and every relation in which man may be found.

"And they would declare their deep conviction that rulers and governments are bound by those imperative obligations imposed by the Creator of all, and originated by Infinite Rectitude, alike for the good of the whole, and the benefit of each individual.

"Among those rights which can never be forfeited nor prejudiced by any social or civil relations, this Assembly regard the right of every man to the free use of the word of God, and the privilege to worship him according to the dictates of his own conscience, where no violence is done to the express declarations of the Sacred Scriptures; that no private, social, or civil rights should, or can be, forfeited or prejudiced by the free exercise of conscience in the use of the word of God, and the culture and enjoyment of his worship.

"This Assembly would solemnly declare their conviction, that no government can rightfully refuse to its subjects, and to all men within its [343] jurisdiction, these natural and inalienable privileges. And further, that it is the duty of every government to see its subjects, and all men within the limits of its jurisdiction, protected in the free use and enjoyment of these principles.

"This General Assembly would moreover express their deep regret that any portion of the civilized world, or that any government in this enlightened age of the world, should withhold from its subjects, or from any within its jurisdiction, the free exercise and enjoyment of the above-declared rights.

"While living under a government which secures equal personal, civil, and religious liberty to its own citizens, and all men from other lands and

governments, who may be transiently or resident among us, of whatever religious faith, this Assembly is decided and firm in the conviction, that the Government of this country has a right to ask for the citizens and subjects of all other Governments, and especially and pre-eminently to demand for its own citizens, wherever resident or traveling abroad, the same religious privileges which it so invariably and universally extends to others; and that it may and should, and that this Assembly may and should, avow and represent the great principles of civil and religious liberty, on which our Church and our Government are founded and conducted: and in doing this, they respectfully ask, yea, demand, that these principles shall be examined and respected, so far as the rights of conscience and free exercise of religion shall require.

"In behalf of religious freedom, and in the name of God, the Universal Ruler, this General Assembly would protest against religious oppression everywhere, and against the persecution of men for the exercise of the rights of conscience, and the worship of the Almighty in any way the sacred Scriptures shall authorize.

"This General Assembly would proffer its 'intervention' for the improvement and advance of the public sentiment of the world, in favor of the rights, as resulting from the duties, of all mankind; as favoring the progress of universal freedom and order, and the just ascendency of the glorious Gospel of the blessed God among the nations, and for their blessedness every where, to the Glory of God, our common Maker and final Judge."

The Committee on Bills and Overtures made the following report on the subject of Education, which was adopted:

"In reference to the subject of Academic Education in the West, especially for the daughters of our Christian families, the Assembly feels that proper seminaries of learning, of a high and thorough character, and at the same time of sound religious influence, are to be sustained and fostered by the combined and social efforts of Christians, in all the suitable localities and districts of our country. The education of the sex, or the moral and intellectual elevation of women, is the standard of the dignity of the species too, the hope of the country, and the glory of the world. May this continue to be increasingly the treasure and the safety of our own America! The Assembly only adds, in this relation, its solemn admonition and injunction, that education be thoroughly and guardedly Protestant, since the arts of those enemies of truth, and emissaries of Antichrist, the various agents of the Roman apostasy, in the forms of [344] nunneries and their schools, Jesuits and their wiles, are so insidious and so destructive as to claim the vigilance, to counteract and supersede them, of all who love the Church, the country, and the souls of men. And the Assembly only adds, that virtually the same commendation is given to the seminaries and grammar schools of our country, for our sons, in their preparation, either for the loftier acquisitions of learning, or for collegiate studies, or for the pursuits of secular and professional life; desiring that the means of correct education may be every where multiplied, and rendered accessible to all classes of our countrymen and fellow-creatures in the United States."

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be returned to the president, directors, superintendent, and conductors of the Buffalo and New York City Railroad Company, for their polite invitation to a gratuitous excursion to Portage on Saturday last, which was so generally accepted. The Assembly cannot forget the wild and magnificent scenery, and the majestic works of nature and art, which they were permitted to view: while the excellent accommodations made by this company for the traveling public, and more especially

for their safety, are deserving of all praise, and worthy the attention of other railroad companies in this country.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the New York and Erie, Buffalo and New York City, Buffalo and Cleveland, Michigan Central, and Michigan Southern Railroads, for a generous reduction of fare to the Commissioners attending its sessions.

Also, that the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the citizens of Buffalo, and the families of different denominations, who have extended their kind and cordial hospitality to the Commissioners and others in attendance, and have contributed to make their stay in this city so peculiarly pleasant; with the assurance that it is our fervent prayer that the blessing of God, in connection with the meeting of this Assembly, may rest upon them.

Also, that the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the Rev. A. T. Chester, D. D., and other members of the Committee of Arrangements, for their efforts to enable us to reach the city, and to return to our respective homes, comfortably and economically, and to minister to our comfort and pleasure while here.

Also, that the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the trustees of the North Presbyterian church of this city, for the accommodations extended to the Assembly during their present sessions.

Thanks also were tendered to the Moderator, the Rev. D. H. Allen, D. D., for his dignified, kind, and impartial discharge of the duties of his office.

The Roll was called, and it appeared that none had absented themselves without leave.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for the dissolving of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved; and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the First Presbyterian church, in the city of Philadelphia, on the third Thursday of May, 1854, at 11 o'clock A. M.

E. W. GILBERT, *Permanent Clerk.*

Buffalo, May 31*st*, 1853.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1853.

Sixty-and-five years have been numbered since the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in these United States sent forth to the world their first annual Narrative of God's providential dealings with the congregations under their care. At that period, when the Congress of the Nation and the Congress of the Church, founded on the same great principles of a representative democracy, set out upon their simultaneous career of prosperity and of peace, the most of that vast territory from which our Commissioners have now assembled was an unknown and a paganistic land. Wonderful indeed are the ways and faithful the promises of Him who hath said, "I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

Presbyterial Narratives.

Your Committee take pleasure in reporting that, of the one hundred and eight Presbyteries whose Commissioners are, or should be, on the floor of the

Assembly, between eighty and ninety have sent up their Narratives of the State of Religion within their bounds, some of which are drawn up with great care and signal ability. One of these, from one of our Southern Presbyteries, (Hanover,) we would signalize as a model worthy to provoke the emulation of other and more negligent Presbyteries. If, therefore, we can blend these numerous statements into one consistent whole, we shall have before us a picture, all but complete, of the state of religion within our bounds. It will, however, be a picture like that painted by nature on the canvas of the sky, of sunshine and of clouds; our great comfort being this, that behind both alike are the stars of promise and the throne of God.

But the sunshine prevails. It is most gratifying to be able to state, that by far the larger part of the Narratives open with happy gratulations and devout thanksgivings. They tell us of peace within their walls, of prosperity within their palaces, of stability in doctrine, of walking in the unity and comfort of the Spirit, of brotherly love abounding, of an auspicious present, and of a hopeful future.

And while, on the one hand, there is complaint, to some extent, of a languid and all but lifeless piety, overborne by worldliness of spirit, there is, on the other hand, the intimation of a desire and an effort after a closer walk with God, and more intimate and evident communion with him.

Revivals of Religion.

In this connection we would state, that one of our great characteristics as a branch of the Church visible has, no less really, though perhaps less powerfully, distinguished our past twelve months' history. Revivals of religion have blessed and strengthened more than one half of the Presbyteries here represented. In some of these instances, the influences of the Spirit have fallen like the gentle and noiseless dew; in some others, like the April shower; and in others still, like the mighty rain on the parched and blasted soil, investing it with beauty and fertility. Just the number of hopeful conversions we cannot tell; but hundreds are now walking in the meekness of the gospel, who at the meeting of the last General Assembly were persistent in the pride and obduracy of a selfish unregeneracy.

But, interspersed with these fields which the Lord hath blessed, are those upon which neither rain, nor shower, nor dew hath descended, whose verdure and fruitfulness have been changed into arid waste and desolate barrenness. These, however, we are glad to say, are the exceptions. On the whole, we have been neither stationary nor retrogressive; but, in sympathy with every thing about us, progressive, and even rapidly progressive. We have gone from strength to strength; and, as the greatness of this venerable body proclaims, never have we been clothed before with the might or the majesty of the present day.

Peculiar Trials.

It is a painful duty which your Committee feel to be incumbent upon them, kindly and affectionately to advert to one or two of the more immediate occasions of that burden of lamentation, which characterizes a very few of the Presbyterial reports which have been put into their hands. Certain of the lower judicatories which are represented in this Assembly, and those of them that remain with us, professing an unwavering attachment to us, complain that they have been well-nigh dismembered, and are likely to be almost wholly so, by the operation of two hostile elements among them: First, by what they denominate a species of sectarianism, which, disguised in the heraldry and bearing the name of what we all love and venerate—New

England Congregationalism—is destroying the harmony and breaking up the relations of churches, whose peace and unity they have solemnly covenanted to study, and with which they became united on a basis of union that has hitherto, by us, been preserved inviolate, and from which if they would secede for their own advantage, they should not to our injury.

Another element of division and dismemberment reported by our brethren in the Narratives referred to, is found in that spirit which, in a Church whose General Assemblies have for scores of years been lifting up their steady and solemn protest against the enormous evil of Slavery in our land; which has gone to the whole extent of its constitutional powers to purge the churches of this evil; whose pulpits, with most rare exceptions, have lifted up an unflinching and unfaltering testimony against it; whose people, as a body, have manifested any other than a spirit of sympathy with it, and which never, directly or by implication, has set the seal of its sanction upon it, can yet see in the General Assembly of that Church the patron and the guilty participant of the evil referred to. To the brethren who are suffering from this schismatical spirit, we would recommend the exercise of that charity which never faileth, of that patience which sits tranquil amid all the inconsistencies of unreasonable men, and to labor on, in the hope of that day when the chaos of contending elements shall wear the beauty of perennial truth, peace, and love.

Church Extension.

From the Narratives which have been put into our hands it seems evident that never, since the time of our first organization as an Assembly—which will soon be in the antiquity of our Church's history—has there been manifested a more decided, healthful, and promising spirit of Church Extension than during the ecclesiastical year which has just come to its close. From every quarter of our wide-spread land has the cry been sounded, that we go forward; not because we are a denomination, but because, as a denomination, we have an unfulfilled mission to perform—the spreading of the Christianity of the Bible in its purest form, and under its noblest polity. The age in which we live is one of intense activity. In this activity we are summoned to participate, not for the glory it will bring to us, but for the glory it will bring to God, in the salvation of men, and in sanctifying the future of our nation and of our race.

There is a two-fold development of Christianity: one that is laterally abroad; and another that is netherward, permeating the masses beneath the more intelligent classes of society. It is reported from our Presbyteries, that not only the former but the latter process of enlargement and evangelization is going on. Our untaught brethren and fellow-sufferers from foreign lands, whom we welcome to the freedom of our shores, are met by the Christian philanthropist with the Bible and the tract, and the volume of evangelical truth; and, so far as they can be reached, are taught the truth as it is in Jesus. And it affords us no ordinary pleasure to chronicle the fact, that, in some parts at least of our Southern borders, a greatly increased attention has been given to the religious well-being of the African race; and, what is still more cheering, that instruction has been blessed to the salvation of large numbers of them. Indeed, it is stated, upon the authority of some of our Presbyteries, that, relatively, the number of those, who have been savingly benefited by the gospel within their bounds, is much larger among the colored population than among their more favored masters.

We regard it as one among the many cheering indications of our progress, that a goodly number of churches are reported to have advanced, during the

year, from a state of missionary dependence to the self-sustaining standard; and are already beginning to repay into the treasury from which they have been so cheerfully supported, the gratuity without which they could not have had an existence. Nor is it a less auspicious sign of a growing attachment to the institutions of religion, and of increasing ability to sustain them, that a large number of the Presbyteries report the successful enterprise of throwing off the incumbrance of debt from the churches under their care. A still larger number report, as completed or begun, the enlargement and beautifying of their sanctuaries; while, in cases not a few, new and more spacious houses of worship are replacing the old, or rising upon foundations which have never before been laid, and in fields of usefulness which have never before been occupied. And, in this connection, it is pleasant to state, that in some cases the annual stipend of the pastors has been raised to the standard of a more generous support, while, at the same time, the manse has been provided for their permanent and gratuitous residence.

Reforms.

The monster evil of our land, Intemperance, is still preying upon our population. But, with great uniformity, the Presbyteries report a growing sentiment in favor of prohibitory enactments by our State Legislatures, and an increasing resoluteness of purpose to secure such enactments. Indeed, judging from the Narratives before us, we cannot but believe that ere long many of our States will have followed the noble example of that one which has stood in the van of this great battle. Nor with less earnestness, if with less hope, are our churches setting themselves against the enormous sin of Sabbath-desecration.

Benevolence.

In comparison with preceding years, the history of our last year's benevolence will not suffer. Our great standard charities have been fully sustained; while, as a whole, the societies, through which they are applied to the world's evangelization, were never more firmly embraced in the affections of our churches than at the present time.

Common Schools.

From the testimony of the Presbyteries, it appears that, in various parts of our land, a simultaneous assault has been made upon the freedom, integrity and permanence of our common schools; that Romanism and the various forms of infidelity are combining to banish from them the blessed word of God, and to scatter them into sectarian fragments. Against this unholy crusade, it is needless to say, our churches are lifting up their united testimony, and arraying their united strength.

Education for the Ministry.

We have reserved to the last all reference to one topic on which a very large number of our Presbyteries, and especially in the great Western field, dwell with earnest and mournful emphasis. It is the destitution of ministers, the utter inadequacy of the laborers to the vast work that is to be done. Diffuse their labors as they may, they tell us of many churches, which have no one to break to them the bread of life; and of destitutions, to obtain a supply for which their utmost efforts are unavailing. The cry is sent up to us from every quarter of the land: "Come over and help us." And it is because that cry has been so long sounding in vain, that despondency and

gloom overshadow many a field of promise, and oppress many a heart that responds to the sympathies of the Gospel. To add to the oppressiveness of this despondency, the future seems darker and more forbidding than the present. The candidates for the ministry which our Presbyteries report are few in number. The broad and open avenues to wealth and the higher objects of ambition are crowded with eager competitors; and among them are not a few who have professedly consecrated their talents to the God of their salvation. The self-denying path to the ministry, leading, though it does, to riches which are imperishable, and to renown which no lapse of time can dim, has but here and there a youthful traveler. If there is any one feature of our present state that should humble us as an Assembly, and the churches under our care, before God, this is the one. Sleep over it we must not. We have, personally, a solemn duty to perform, and so have the beloved churches under our care; and when we go down to them, let us enter upon the discharge of it, while the facts to which we have adverted are fresh in our memories.

Decease of Ministers.

In conclusion, we are reminded that, few as are the number who are pressing into the ranks of the ministry, those who have long borne the heat and burden of the day are sinking under the weight of their responsibilities, and finding that rest which remaineth for the people of God. During the past year, death has laid his hand on many of our brethren, and given them a release from toil and pain and sin. The following twenty-two ministers have, since the meeting of the last Assembly, departed this life, viz.:

Charles S. Adams,	of the Presbytery of	Onondaga.
Hiram S. Lawrence,	"	St. Lawrence.
Crispus Wright,	"	Chenango.
Levi Rose,	"	Bath.
Joseph W. Sutphen,	"	Rochester.
Thomas Payne,	"	Niagara.
Abijah Blanchard, D. D.,	"	Buffalo.
Daniel Bond,	"	North River.
Samuel T. Mills,	"	New York, Third.
Edward Fairchild,	"	Brooklyn.
Daniel H. Johnson,	"	Rockaway.
Truman Osborne,	"	Philadelphia, Third.
[illegible]an Beach,	"	Detroit.
[illegible]ustin B. Taylor,	"	Monroe.
[illegible]homas Kennan,	"	Huron.
[illegible]everett Hull,	"	"
[illegible]ohn L. Tomlinson,	"	Elyria.
[illegible]benezer P. Sperry,	"	"
Joseph Labaree,	"	Franklin.
William Hill, D. D.,	"	Winchester.
Stephen Taylor, D. D.,	"	Hanover.
George H. Blair,	"	West Tennessee.

By order of the General Assembly.

D. HOWE ALLEN, *Moderator.*

EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

I. SCHEDULE OF SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	Commiss. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	5	76	4	9	67	314	203	9108	54	179	$121 20	$22 25	$3024 37	$4562 67	$1086 50	$2335 92	A. Bordman Lambert.
1. Champlain	1814	...	26	1	5	21	67	40	2636	2	46	4 00	.....	265 00	655 00	.....	.....	David Dobie.
2. Troy	1820		25	2	2	17	59	52	2998	12	43	48 00	5 00	628 75	1681 67	334 00	1040 64	A. Bordman Lambert.
3. Albany	1791	...	7	...	1	11	79	51	1471	7	26	24 20	13 00	1194 00	823 40	477 50	477 50	
4. Columbia	1802	...	7	1	1	6	66	32	867	27	43	14 00	2 00	465 68	486 00	275 00	275 00	Henry E. Niles.
5. Catskill	1851	...	11	...	...	12	43	28	1136	6	21	31 00	2 25	470 94	916 60	.....	542 78	Josiah Leonard.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	4	78	2	9	82	297	209	8034	90	131	115 39	23 45	2630 32	2699 39	1170 99	3053 69	Franklin A. Spencer.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	7	...	1	9	18	4	772	2	15	19 63	2 37	133 00	432 62	76 66	197 50	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	16	...	4	22	75	72	2345	29	35	44 00	2 54	361 09	851 72	340 53	489 30	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego	1823	...	14	...	...	22	44	30	1827	18	30	.....	.....	1452 85	208 32	225 06	732 42	John N. Hubbard.
4. Utica	1842	...	41	2	4	29	160	103	3090	41	51	51 76	18 54	683 38	1206 73	528 80	1634 47	Samuel W. Brace.
III. Synod of Geneva	1812	9	194	22	10	167	540	526	18,328	194	378	257 80	14 56	6472 44	6311 61	3530 26	4099 51	Henry A. Nelson.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	36	...	...	26	110	85	2969	53	52	59 75	9 00	433 80	800 94	200 63	881 53	Seth P. M. Hastings.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	34	20	...	23	119	70	2550	42	50	44 23	3 00	817 61	969 93	785 51	680 54	Henry A. Nelson.
3. Geneva	1805	...	45	...	...	29	52	79	4455	19	80	23 25	.....	1249 37	1563 94	894 94	1420 61	William Hogarth.
4. Cortland	1825	...	11	...	4	16	39	52	1776	6	37	23 00	.. ...	1502 80	1080 10	88 00	.....	Hercules R. Dunham.
5. Tioga	1829	...	12	...	...	11	25	37	1402	4	22	21 21	2 56	602 20	714 46	174 43	391 72	Peter Lockwood.
6. Bath	1875	...	14	...	1	17	32	48	1491	7	43	12 50	.....	416 37	225 50	820 53	242 72	B. Coleman Smith.
7. Chemung	1836	...	20	2	2	21	67	99	1804	22	31	17 12	.....	763 25	371 60	307 55	155 30	Charles C. Carr.
8. Ithaca	1839	...	12	...	3	11	73	36	1532	26	38	46 74	.....	517 29	545 55	241 67	327 09	William N. McIlarg.
9. Pennsylvania	1845	...	10	...	...	13	23	20	459	15	25	10 00	.....	169 75	39 59	17 00	.....	Elijah D. Wells.
IV. S. of Susquehanna	1853	3	48	2	5	55	103	80	4696	20	53	35 75	6 00	665 44	1280 00	735 37	760 87	
1. Otsego	1820	...	17	1	...	19	53	27	1593	14	22	20 00	6 00	311 00	721 00	500 00	325 00	John G. Hall.
2. Chenango	1826	...	11	...	5	18	34	49	1775	6	31	15 75	.....	354 44	559 00	235 37	435 87	Amos C. Tuttle.
3. Delaware	1831	...	20	1	...	18	16	4	1328	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Isaac D. Cornwell.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	Commiss. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
V. Synod of Genesee.....	1821	6	128	6	6	129	388	409	14,585	134	219	$119 80	$55 48	$1664 14	$3190 68	$2056 61	$3677 75	Timothy Stillman.
1. Genesee.....	1819	...	16	...	...	15	41	42	1406	17	14	13 00	5 00	366 00	560 00	347 85	517 00	Charles N. Mattoon.
2. Ontario	1817	...	14	...	...	16	21	21	1592	7	16	.....	3 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester*.....	1819	...	29	2	1	22	...	...	3430	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John B. Richardson.
4. Niagara	1817	...	17	1	...	16	148	102	2391	54	53	.....	35 00	763 25	617 62	566 11	2119 59	Charles E. Furman.
5. Buffalo.....	1823	...	39	2	4	40	121	164	4201	41	121	103 18	10 00	1418 11	1954 06	1101 40	996 89	Timothy Stillman.
6. Angelica.....	1828	...	13	1	1	20	57	80	1565	15	15	3 62	2 48	116 78	59 00	41 25	44 27	Samuel A. Rawson.
VI. S. of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	10	205	34	45	142	811	902	22,445	208	643	497 58	256 62	17,711 14	13,279 57	6014 95	4023 37	John N. Lewis.
1. Hudson	1797	...	16	...	6	13	22	40	1820	10	30	55 00	6 12	341 92	466 02	161 56	333 50	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River.....	1819	...	16	...	1	15	72	23	1573	31	33	23 00	10 00	117 67	189 61	855 00	574 66	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island.....	1791	...	9	...	...	6	22	7	605	8	11	14 00	2 70	60 50	106 00	80 00	32 37	Henry Clark.
4. New York, 3d.....	1831	...	39	15	20	20	226	324	5060	45	290	116 73	116 74	15,173 32	10,460 22	4430 39	2912 84	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, 4th.....	1845	...	28	11	4	11	148	163	2513	21	63	89 68	35 56	760 00	716 44	352 00	170 00	Thomas H. Skinner, Jr.
6. Brooklyn.....	1838	...	17	3	3	7	86	70	2253	22	41	65 00	37 00	15 00	24 00	.....	.....	Samuel H. Cox, D. D.
7. Newark.....	1824	...	30	3	1	19	78	159	3500	18	92	76 17	30 06	.....	.....	... ..	.....	Ebenezer Seymour.
8. Rockaway.....	1839	...	19	1	1	18	50	35	2516	13	29	42 50	11 50	537 87	648 51	136 00	.....	Joel Campbell.
9. Montrose.....	1832	...	21	...	9	29	107	81	2513	40	54	15 50	7 00	704 86	668 77	.....	.....	Adam Miller.
10. San Francisco.....	1849	...	10	1	...	4	...	...	92	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel H. Willey.
VII. S. of Pennsylvania	1838	4	81	6	14	66	288	270	9876	86	437	204 30	71 20	4907 29	2903 11	3124 98	2357 79	John McKnight.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	15	...	2	19	14	16	1356	...	52	23 00	2 00	295 00	231 78	74 98	435 00	Horatio S. Howell.
2. Philadelphia, 3d ...	1832	...	28	1	4	19	129	94	2800	26	180	45 20	10 00	281 12	461 98	311 80	99 00	John McKnight.
3. Philadelphia, 4th ..	1845	...	29	5	8	19	128	142	4622	53	164	86 10	45 00	3667 59	1941 10	2521 18	1515 79	Charles Brown.
4. Harrisburgh.....	1839	...	9	..	...	9	17	18	1098	7	41	50 00	14 20	663 58	268 25	217 02	308 00	Conway P. Wing.
VIII. Synod of W. Penn.	1843	3	20	2	2	34	111	74	2619	22	95	34 84	9 45	769 25	943 43	334 42	51 26	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie.....	1801	...	8	2	1	15	32	49	1108	6	36	34 84	2 50	243 00	163 43	91 17	4 00	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	7	...	1	14	44	14	848	8	21	.....	2 45	119 96	52 00	58 25	41 26	Richard Craighead.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

3. Pittsburgh.	1839	...	5	...	...	5	35	11	663	8	38	.....	4 50	406 29	728 00	185 00	6 00	Samuel M. Sparks.
IX. Synod of Michigan..	1834	6	87	6	18	115	413	310	7785	98	173	92 69	35 87	2273 86	2366 95	529 35	967 72	Ebenezer Cheever.
1. Detroit.	1826	...	23	1	1	32	35	54	2171	5	30	3 00	.....	379 85	781 90	238 00	311 18	Robert R. Kellogg.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	13	...	5	26	85	34	1218	24	24	32 50	3 15	243 87	339 24	66 00	.....	Norman Kellogg.
3. Monroe	1833	..	11	1	3	14	121	47	1346	28	31	27 75	20 22	318 78	379 92	110 00	269 17	John Monteith.
4. Marshall	1838	...	17	1	1	20	82	66	1364	24	36	11 00	5 00	540 00	448 00	77 00	.....	Samuel H. Hall.
5. Washtenaw	1838	...	13	2	8	13	83	83	1092	12	34	12 44	4 00	623 05	103 52	18 75	236 37	William S. Curtis.
6. Kalamazoo	1838	...	10	1	...	10	7	20	594	5	18	6 00	3 50	168 31	314 37	19 60	151 00	Milton Bradley.
X. Synod of W. Reserve.	1825	8	132	11	3	112	228	209	6921	48	162	75 00	2 85	1944 62	3190 16	231 69	2679 66	William Hanford.
1. Grand River	1814	...	17	...	...	14	61	7	956	2	4	.....	.....	28 00	36 90	10 00	35 92	Ebenezer Bushnell.
2. Portage	1818	...	31	6	...	14	46	18	1147	12	27	4 37	75	534 41	540 25	103 05	391 84	William Hanford.
3. Huron	1823	...	18	1	...	18	10	22	1183	6	25	16 00	2 10	143 96	249 22	22 50	233 20	Alfred Newton.
4. Trumbull	1827	...	13	1	...	12	37	33	1050	11	37	10 82	.....	249 93	434 66	.....	.....	Xenophon Betts.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	25	2	...	14	54	77	1257	13	33	38 81	.....	520 45	1309 71	71 14	1884 96	James Shaw.
6. Medina	1836	...	7	...	...	9	...	...	300	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Frederick H. Brown.
7. Elyria	1842	...	13	1	2	13	9	17	502	...	16	.....	.....	172 96	402 55	.....	.....	Alfred H. Betts.
8. Maumee	1842	...	8	...	1	18	11	35	526	4	20	5 00	.....	294 91	216 87	25 00	133 74	James H. Newton.
XI. Synod of Ohio	1814	4	53	4	11	78	249	245	4321	76	178	147 17	18 74	2142 24	1868 53	649 02	1199 65	Addison Kingsbury.
1. Athens	1822	...	12	2	...	20	14	15	724	1	33	51 00	.....	204 40	212 30	113 50	115 17	James S. Walton.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	16	...	1	23	82	77	1607	21	77	35 67	10 24	1384 39	1080 70	276 47	521 48	Alexander Duncan.
3. Franklin	1835	..	15	2	9	23	128	117	1324	46	25	30 50	3 50	351 95	335 83	44 05	116 00	Henry Shedd.
4. Scioto	1845	...	10	...	1	12	25	36	666	8	43	30 00	5 00	201 50	239 70	215 00	447 00	Joseph Chester.
XII. S. of Cincinnati....	1829	3	44	13	11	40	226	141	3057	52	91	168 90	15 00	4961 10	1983 50	3770 45	1275 00	Thornton A. Mills.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	25	12	11	14	130	77	1552	25	57	107 00	10 00	3351 85	1461 50	3623 45	1200 00	D. Howe Allen, D. D.
2. Dayton	1838	...	10	...	...	14	36	20	794	15	19	24 15	5 00	414 25	353 00	82 00	.....	Daniel Rice.
3. Hamilton	1846	...	9	1	...	12	60	44	711	12	15	37 75	.....	195 00	169 00	65 00	75 00	Daniel Tenney.
XIII. Synod of Indiana.	1826	4	44	1	8	62	294	193	3183	107	170	143 80	16 50	1733 80	936 20	468 90	556 10	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem	1823	...	9	...	3	18	137	90	915	62	31	52 45	9 50	288 35	308 10	198 30	68 60	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	14	...	5	16	65	26	995	18	61	41 65	5 00	238 00	227 12	213 00	.....	Hiram Wason.
3. Indianapolis	1830	...	15	1	...	18	61	58	738	21	49	27 30	2 00	815 50	139 13	57 60	487 50	George M. Maxwell.
4. Greencastle	1850	...	6	...	...	10	31	19	535	6	29	22 40	.....	391 95	261 85	.....	.....	William D. Rossiter.

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XIV. Synod of Wabash.	1851	4	30	1	1	48	211	108	1855	86	94	$72 35	$4 30	$731 86	$517 76	$179 00	$196 25	James H. Johnston.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	14	1	...	14	29	16	441	8	16	25 00	1 05	101 25	198 25	.....	.....	James H. Johnston.
2. Logansport	1835	...	5	...	...	17	163	67	932	75	43	25 00	.....	499 65	215 45	.....	47 00	Francis S. McCabe.
3. Fort Wayne	1845	...	7	...	...	11	10	19	282	3	21	12 35	2 25	116 96	74 06	179 00	149 25	James Thomson.
4. Elkhart	1852	...	4	...	1	6	9	6	200	...	14	10 00	1 00	14 00	30 00	.....	.....	Nathan L. Lord.
XV. Synod of Illinois	1831	4	59	2	...	76	296	192	3906	51	144	172 85	10 70	1267 75	1161 90	489 10	722 90	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois	1828	...	17	...	...	15	31	42	1009	6	23	23 00	1 50	509 00	491 00	.....	.....	Livingston M. Glover.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	10	...	...	17	156	53	1115	26	40	55 00	2 80	122 00	158 00	.....	249 00	Henry C. Abernethy.
3. Wabash	1833	...	7	...	...	10	19	13	281	4	13	14 85	1 40	29 00	16 50	.....	2 50	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	25	2	...	34	90	84	1501	15	68	80 00	5 00	607 75	496 40	489 10	471 40	Augustus T. Norton.
XVI. Synod of Peoria	1843	8	86	...	15	68	326	259	3545	37	183	114 83	11 60	1715 67	1803 84	620 00	2170 83	Robert W. Patterson.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	16	...	...	11	162	11	213	...	2	6 00	1 50	26 30	2 95	5 00	175 50	Nahum Gould.
2. Peoria and Knox	1836	...	14	...	...	9	31	41	775	15	37	14 00	2 00	198 45	251 00	50 00	18 00	Joseph Fowler.
3. Galena	1842	...	13	...	3	18	34	36	691	3	37	37 50	.....	292 90	262 28	320 00	215 40	Shubael G. Spees.
4. Chicago	1847	...	15	...	9	8	58	104	802	12	43	27 33	3 00	677 47	1034 08	185 00	1644 90	Lewis H. Loss.
5. Belvidere	1847	...	11	...	3	4	19	15	397	2	5	13 25	1 05	99 00	223 16	60 00	107 03	Charles Fanning.
6. Minnesota	1850	...	4	...	...	6	4	5	101	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Edward D. Neill.
7. Milwaukee	1851	...	8	...	...	8	17	17	472	3	44	12 00	3 55	408 64	15 06	.....	3 00	William H. Spencer.
8. Fox River	1851	...	5	...	...	4	1	30	94	1	14	4 75	50	12 91	15 31	.....	7 00	John B. Preston.
XVII. Synod of Iowa	1853	3	15	...	3	23	39	25	716	17	39	49 58	9 70	38 58	32 00	222 00	167 00	
1. Des Moines	1845	...	4	...	1	8	4	9	201	1	6	.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	Thompson Bird.
2. Iowa City	1852	...	5	...	2	8	17	8	195	8	13	18 50	2 45	25 00	20 00	52 00	62 00	John D. Strong.
3. Keokuk	1852	...	6	...	...	7	18	8	320	8	20	31 08	2 25	13 58	12 00	170 00	105 00	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
XVIII. S. of Missouri	1832	4	40	4	...	52	144	135	2123	51	123	76 25	18 65	1772 40	695 25	942 50	636 30	John Leighton.
1. St. Louis	1831	...	12	...	...	12	51	54	837	15	66	42 00	13 00	1528 25	620 50	831 50	380 30	Edmund Wright.

2. N. Missouri	1845	...	7	1	...	12	24	19	595	4	7	9 00	.....	75 00	40 00	10 00	80 00	John Leighton.
3. Lexington	1845	...	11	3	...	12	49	34	356	21	41	18 00	2 45	87 85	.....	80 00	176 00	Tapping S. Reeve.
4. Osage	1845	...	10	...	...	16	20	28	357	11	9	7 25	3 20	81 30	34 75	21 00	.....	Joseph V. Barks.
XIX. Synod of Virginia.	1788	3	42	7	7	46	154	88	3975	61	170	263 50	38 00	2286 25	2948 86	1933 06	3371 67	John C. Smith.
1. Winchester	1794	...	10	4	7	17	64	25	1046	23	54	61 00	3 50	289 05	129 75	71 56	.....	Patterson Fletcher.
2. Dis. of Columbia	1831	...	16	2	...	13	29	30	1504	10	69	89 50	24 50	624 64	1483 30	1420 50	2150 00	William McLain.
3. Hanover	1838	...	16	1	...	16	61	33	1425	28	47	113 00	10 00	1372 56	1335 81	441 00	1221 67	Henry S. Osborn.
XX. S. of Kentucky	1802	3	15	...	6	25	35	16	1178	15	26	87 50	5 40	256 00	44 30	312 00	76 50	Archer C. Dickerson.
1. Harmony	1842	...	7	...	2	10	16	8	469	6	18	30 50	4 00	201 00	39 30	12 00	76 50	Fincelius R. Gray.
2. Providence	1842	...	4	...	4	6	19	8	456	9	8	57 00	1 40	55 00	5 00	300 00	.....	Thomas H. Cleland.
3. Green River	1842	...	4	...	...	9	...	...	253	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Archer C. Dickerson.
XXI. S. of Tennessee	1817	4	47	2	11	75	414	76	5014	110	249	60 20	9 55	373 19	253 54	74 38	81 65	John J. Robinson.
1. Union	1797	...	21	...	5	27	95	29	1990	22	113	20 00	4 55	19 85	.....	19 38	54 35	Gideon S. White.
2. Holston	1826	...	12	1	3	16	220	21	1602	66	94	10 00	.....	172 37	171 48	.....	10 00	Ira Morey.
3. Kingston	1838	...	7	...	2	19	61	20	699	13	16	30 20	.....	28 00	25 00	.....	16 30	William B. Brown.
4. New River	1838	...	7	1	1	13	38	6	723	9	26	.....	5 00	152 97	57 06	55 00	1 00	George Painter.
XXII. S. of W. Tenn.	1826	3	24	...	2	35	168	57	2155	43	70	123 80	9 95	346 90	170 00	353 35	68 00	William Eagleton.
1. West Tennessee	1810	...	6	...	1	7	96	15	619	15	15	32 00	1 05	34 50	164 00	30 00	.....	Robert C. Garrison.
2. Shiloh	1816	...	10	...	...	16	37	32	951	12	35	14 00	3 90	153 25	6 00	243 35	68 00	Amzi Bradshaw.
3. Richland	1824	...	8	...	1	12	35	10	585	16	20	77 80	5 00	159 15	.....	80 00	.....	Archibald M. Pickens.
XXIII. S. of Mississippi.	1846	3	22	1	3	29	125	33	1027	55	25	274 50	15 00	2369 77	.....	94 00	6 00	Alexander Newton, D.D.
1. Clinton	1822	...	7	1	2	8	45	2	312	16	9	106 50	10 00	937 57	.....	50 00	.....	Consider Parish.
2. Lexington, South	1845	...	10	...	1	7	54	17	336	30	14	100 00	.....	848 40	.. ...	44 00	.....	James M. McLean.
3. Newton	1845	...	5	...	...	14	26	14	379	9	2	68 00	5 00	583 80	.....	.....	6 00	Hervey Woods.

II. SCHEDULE OF SYNODS.

NAME.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	Commiss. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	76	4	9	67	314	203	9,108	54	179	$121.20	$ 22.25	$3,024.37	$4,562.67	$1,086.50	$2,335.92
2. Utica	1829	4	78	2	9	82	297	209	8,034	90	131	115.39	23.45	2,630.32	2,699.39	1,170.99	3,053.69
3. Geneva	1812	9	194	22	10	167	540	526	18,328	194	378	257.80	14.56	6,472.44	6,311.61	3,530.26	4,099.51
4. Susquehanna	1853	3	48	2	5	55	103	80	4,696	20	53	35.75	6.00	665.44	1,280.00	735.37	760.87
5. Genesee	1821	6	128	6	6	129	388	409	14,585	134	219	119.80	55.48	1,664.14	3,190.68	2,056.61	3,677.75
6. N. York and N. Jersey	1788	10	205	34	45	142	811	962	22,445	208	643	497.58	256.62	17,711.14	13,279.57	6,014.95	4,023.37
7. Pennsylvania	1838	4	81	6	14	66	288	270	9,876	86	437	204.30	71.20	4,907.29	2,903.11	3,124.98	2,357.79
8. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	20	2	2	34	111	74	2,619	22	95	34.84	9.45	769.25	943.43	334.42	51.26
9. Michigan	1834	6	87	6	18	115	413	310	7,785	98	173	92.69	35.87	2,273.86	2,366.95	529.35	967.72
10. Western Reserve	1825	8	132	11	3	112	228	209	6,921	48	162	75.00	2.85	1,944.62	3,190.16	231.69	2,679.66
11. Ohio	1814	4	53	4	11	78	249	245	4,321	76	178	147.17	18.74	2,142.24	1,868.53	649.02	1,199.65
12. Cincinnati	1829	3	44	13	11	40	226	141	3,057	52	91	168.90	15.00	4,961.10	1,983.50	3,770.45	1,275.00
13. Indiana	1826	4	44	1	8	62	294	193	3,183	107	170	143.80	16.50	1,733.80	936.20	468.90	556.10
14. Wabash	1851	4	30	1	1	48	211	108	1,855	86	94	72.35	4.30	731.86	517.76	179.00	196.25
15. Illinois	1831	4	59	2	...	76	296	192	3,906	51	144	172.85	10.70	1,267.75	1,161.90	489.10	722.90
16. Peoria	1843	8	86	...	15	68	326	259	3,545	37	183	114 83	11.60	1,715.67	1,803.84	620.00	2,170.83
17. Iowa	1853	3	15	...	3	23	39	25	716	17	39	49.58	9.70	38.58	32 00	222.00	167.00
18. Missouri	1832	4	40	4	...	52	144	135	2,123	51	123	76.25	18.65	1,772.40	695.25	942.50	636.30
19. Virginia	1788	3	42	7	7	46	154	88	3,975	61	170	263.50	38.00	2,286.25	2,948.86	1,933.06	3,371.67
20. Kentucky	1802	3	15	...	6	25	35	16	1,178	15	26	87.50	5.40	256.00	44.30	312.00	76.50
21. Tennessee	1817	4	47	2	11	75	414	76	5,014	110	249	60.20	9.55	373.19	253.54	74.38	81.65
22. West Tennessee	1826	3	24	...	2	35	168	57	2,155	43	70	123.80	9.95	346.90	170.00	353.35	68.00
23. Mississippi	1846	3	22	1	3	29	125	33	1,027	55	25	274.50	15.00	2,369.77	.....	94.00	6.00
		108	1570	130	199	1626	6174	4760	140,452	1715	4032	$3309.58	$680.82	$62,058.38	$53,143.25	$28,922.88	$34,535.39

COMPARATIVE VIEW.

Statistical Reports have been received from all the Presbyteries, with the exception of Rochester. Two have been added to their number; Iowa City and Keokuk. Whole number, 108.

The Synods are 23, two having been constituted by the last Assembly; Susquehanna and Iowa.

Ministers, 1570. Previous year, 1527. Increase, 43.

Of the ministers, 22 have died; one more than in the previous year.

Licentiates, 130. Previous year, 130. Increase, none.

Candidates, 199. Previous year, 75. Increase, 124.

Churches, 1626. Previous year, 1602. Increase, 24.

Additions on Examination, 6174. Previous year, 5816. Increase, 358.

" " Certificate, 4760. Previous year, 4440. Increase, 320.

Communicants, 140,452. Previous year, 140,652. Decrease, 200.

Baptisms of Adults, 1715. Previous year, 1617. Increase, 98.

" " Infants, 4032. Previous year, 3931. Increase, 101.

Contributions.

Commissioners' Fund, $3,309.58. Previous year, $2,955.02. Increase, $354.56. (Paid into the Treasury of the Assembly, $1328.15.)

Contingent Fund, $680.82. Previous year, $518.26. Increase, $162.56. (Paid into the Treasury of the Assembly, $664.21.)

Domestic Missions, $62,058.38.

Foreign Missions, $53,143.25.

Education, $28,922.88.

Publication, $34,535.39.

Sixty Presbyteries have made report of their ecclesiastical changes, exhibiting the following results:

Licensures, 33. Ordinations, 36. Installations, 55. Dissolutions of the pastoral relation, 45. Ministers dismissed to other denominations, 9; and received from other denominations, 26. Churches organized, 38; dismissed to other denominations, 10; received from other denominations, 6; and dissolved, 10. All which is respectfully submitted.

EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

New York, July 19th, 1853.

MINUTES, 1854.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 18th, 1854.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian church, in the city of Philadelphia, on Thursday, the 18th day of May, A. D., 1854, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon by Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from 1 Cor. 2 : 2: "For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

In consequence of the death, since the meeting of the last General Assembly, of Rev. Eliphalet W. Gilbert, D. D., for more than fifteen years the Permanent Clerk of the Assembly, Rev. John N. Lewis, the last Temporary Clerk present, was called to perform the duties of the office, *pro tempore*. [476]

The Stated Clerk then presented the report of the Committee of Commissions, and the following persons were thereupon enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners to this General Assembly, viz.:

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	David Dobie,	Samuel Churchill.
	Nathan Leighton,	
2. *Troy*,	Nat. S. S. Beman, D. D.,	Peter B. Ackart,
	Edward Taylor,	Marvin Freeman.
3. *Albany*,	Lumas H. Pease,	Otis Allen.
4. *Columbia*,	Theodore S. Brown,	Alexander Abbott, M. D.
5. *Catskill*,	George A. Howard,	Henry Osborn.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	Baruch B. Beckwith,	Sm'n L. Parmelee, M. D.
2. *Watertown*,	Peter Snyder,	Samuel Bond.
3. *Oswego*.		
4. *Utica*,	Theodore Spencer,	Jared E. Warner,
	R. Ransom Kirk,	Milton Brayton.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Onondaga*,	Lewis H. Reid,	Benjamin J. Cowles,
	George S. Boardman,	Timothy R. Porter.
2. *Cayuga*,	George W. Warner,	Nehemiah Hoyt,
	Levi Griswold,	Hon. Wm. I. Cornwell.
3. *Geneva*,	William Hogarth,	Newell Taft,
	Eliphaz A. Platt,	Hiram H. Seelye.
4. *Cortland*,	William G. Hubbard,	John L. Boyd.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
5. *Tioga*,	Philip C. Hay, D. D.,	Oliver Ely.
6. *Bath*,	Horatio Pattengill,	John Emerson.
7. *Chemung*,	George Hood,	Orrin Robinson.
	Morrison Huggins,	
8. *Ithaca*,	William N. McHarg,	Joshua Jennings.
9. *Pennsylvania*,	Joseph L. Riggs.	

IV. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	E. Vine Wales,	Ezra R. Brewer.
2. *Chenango*,	Henry Callahan.	
3. *Delaware*,	David Torrey,	Geo. W. Reynolds (2).*

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V. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Genesee*,	John M. Ballou,	Augustus Cowdin.
2. *Ontario*,	Joseph R. Page,	
3. *Rochester*,	James B. Shaw, D. D.,	Hon. Orlando Hastings.
	Calvin Waterbury,	
4. *Niagara*,	Bela Fancher.	Orin Scovill.
5. *Buffalo*,	William Waith,	Sextus H. Hungerford,
	Grosvenor W. Heacock,	John Otto (2).
6. *Angelica*,	Samuel A. Rawson.	

VI. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Gideon N. Judd, D. D.,	Geo. M. Newman (4).
2. *North River*,	John Gray,	Phil'r Steward, M. D. (3).
3. *Long Island*,	James Sinclair,	Barnabas Corwin.
4. *New York, 3d*,	Thos. H. Skinner, D. D.,	Francis Duncan,
	George Thacher,	John C. Hines.
5. *New York, 4th*,	Joel Parker, D. D.,	John H. Bulen.
	A. Augustus Wood,	
6. *Brooklyn*,	Sam'l T. Spear, D. D.,	Walter S. Griffith.
7. *Newark*,	William C. White,	Daniel Beach.
	J. Manning Sherwood (3),	Horace J. Poinier.
8. *Rockaway*,	George I. King,	Joel C. Homan.
9. *Montrose*,	Henry A. Riley.	
10. *San Francisco*,	Isaac H. Brayton,	Franklin Knox, M. D. (5).

VII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	Abraham D. Pollock,	James T. McCullough.
2. *Philadelphia, 3d*,	William E. Moore,	James C. Fisher, M. D.,
	John Patton,	Hon. Wm. Darling (2).
3. *Philadelphia, 4th*,	Albert Barnes,	Samuel H. Perkins,
	Thomas Brainerd, D. D.,	Hon. A. Naudain, M. D.
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Daniel H. Emerson,	James W. Weir (4).

VIII. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	Joseph Vance.
2. *Meadville*,	George H. Hammer.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	David H. Riddle, D. D.

* The figures show the day of the Commissioners' enrollment.

IX. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Detroit*,	Henry H. Northrop.	
2. *St. Joseph*,	Lucius C. Rouse.	
3. *Monroe*,	Louis P. Ledoux.	
4. *Marshall*,	William C. Smith,	Charles T. Gorham (3).
5. *Washtenaw*,	William S. Curtis,	Mather Marvin, M. D.
6. *Kalamazoo*,	Zerah T. Hoyt,	Martin Heydenburk. [478]

X. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	J. Mills Gillett.	
2. *Portage*,	Franklin Maginnis,	Milton J. Snow.
	William D. Sanders,	
3. *Huron*,	Charles W. Clapp,	William Watson.
4. *Trumbull*,	William C. Clark,	Elnathan Galpin.
5. *Cleveland*,	Raymond H. Leonard,	Elisha Taylor,
	Abram Blakely,	Levi Benedict.
6. *Medina*.		
7. *Elyria*,	Eldad Barber.	
8. *Maumee*,	E. Richard Tucker,	Hugh Hudson.

XI. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Reed Wilkinson,	Hon. John C. Bestow.
2. *Pataskala*,	Edmund Garland,	Wait Wright.
3. *Franklin*,	Henry Bushnell,	Raymond Burr.
4. *Scioto*,	Joseph Chester,	Charles Kingsbury.

XII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	D. Howe Allen, D. D.,	Johnston Tremper,
	John M. Boal,	Eliab F. Tucker.
2. *Dayton*,	N. Cogswell Coffin,	Peter Odlin.
3. *Hamilton*,	Benjamin W. Chidlaw.	Joseph Lewis.

XIII. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	John A. Tiffany,	James M. Hains.
2. *Madison*,	Henry Little.	Matthias Haines, M. D.
3. *Indianapolis*,	Thornton A. Mills,	Hon. Fabius M. Finch.
4. *Greencastle*,	William M. Cheever.	

XIV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	Amos Jones,	Elias Fullenwider.
2. *Logansport*,	Chas. H. Marshall (2).	
3. *Fort Wayne*,	Andrew Loose.	
4. *Elkhart*,	Jacob E. Conrad.	

XV. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	Alvin M. Dixon (3),	John Kirkpatrick.
2. *Schuyler*,	James J. Marks.	
3. *Wabash*,	Enoch Kingsbury,	William M. Allison.
4. *Alton*,	George C. Wood.	[479]

XVI. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Ottawa*,	Alvah Day,	Henry B. Howell (2).
2. *Peoria and Knox*,	John W. Bailey,	Allen N. Ford.
3. *Galena*,	Enoch R. Martin,	Jeremiah Wood.
4. *Chicago*,	Robert W. Patterson,	Thomas B. Carter (2).
5. *Belvidere*,	Alfred Eddy,	Olney Nichols.
6. *Minnesota*,	Gideon H. Pond.	
7. *Milwaukee*,	Charles R. French.	
8. *Fox River*,	William A. Niles.	

XVII. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines.*		
2. *Iowa City*,	John Summers.	
3. *Keokuk*,	Edmund D. Holt (2).	

XVIII. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis*,	Timothy Hill,	Guilford T. Chamberlain.
2. *North Missouri*,	John Leighton.	
3. *Lexington*,	Charles D. Simpson,	John Rice.
4. *Osage*,	Joseph V. Barks.	

XIX. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester*,	Thomas D. Bell,	John Quigley, M. D.
2. *Dist. of Columbia*,	Mason Noble,	Jacob Gideon.
3. *Hanover*,	J. Duché Mitchell.	

XX. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

1. *Harmony*,	Eli B. Smith.	
2. *Providence*,	Thomas Cleland, D. D.,	Josiah Wilson.
3. *Green River*,	Archer C. Dickerson.	

XXI. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union*,	Andrew Blackburn.
2. *Holston*,	William A. Taylor.
3. *Kingston*,	Benjamin Wallace.
4. *New River*,	George Painter.

XXII. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

1. *West Tennessee.*		
2. *Shiloh*,	William Eagleton, D. D.,	John Q. Davidson.
3. *Richland*,	William L. Tarbet (5).	[480]

XXIII. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

1. *Clinton*,	Alex. Newton, D. D.,	Hon. George W. Shelton.
2. *Lexington, South*,	Robert M. Morrison.	
3. *Newton.*		

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

General Association of Massachusetts,	Rev. Chas. J. Hinsdale.
General Association of Connecticut.	
General Association of New Hampshire.	
General Association of New York.	
General Conference of Maine,	Rev. Caleb Hobart.
General Convention of Vermont.	
General Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island,	Rev. Joel Mann.
Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin,	Rev. John Lewis.
General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States,	Rev. H. N. Pohlman, D. D.
Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.	
General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.	

The Stated Clerk also reported the following persons as appearing without Commissions, and that their appointment is sustained by the testimony of Commissioners present:

Rev. George Painter,	of the Presbytery of	New River.
Elder Milton J. Snow,	"	Portage.
Rev. Reed Wilkinson,	"	Athens.
Elder John C. Bestow,	"	"
Rev. James B. Shaw, D. D.,	"	Rochester.
Elder Orlando Hastings,	"	"
Elder Marvin Freeman,	"	Troy.
Elder Peter B. Ackart,	"	"
Rev. George A. Howard,	"	Catskill.
Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D.,	"	Philadelphia, 4th.

Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the above names be inserted in the Roll as Commissioners.

The Assembly then adjourned, to meet in this place at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Concluded with prayer. [481]

Thursday, May 18th, 4 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Elder James Tremper,	from the Presbytery of	Cincinnati.
Elder John Rice,	"	Lexington.
Rev. William S. Curtis,	"	Washtenaw.
Elder Timothy R. Porter,	"	Onondaga.
Elder Elias Fullenwider,	"	Crawfordsville.
Elder John Kirkpatrick,	"	Illinois.
Rev. George C. Wood,	"	Alton.
Rev. Edward Taylor,	"	Troy.
Rev. Calvin Waterbury,	"	Rochester.

Rev. Henry Little,	from the Presbytery of	Madison.
Rev. Wm. N. McHarg,	"	Ithaca.
Rev. Eldad Barber,	"	Elyria.
Rev. Gideon N. Judd, D. D.,	"	Hudson.
Elder Eliab F. Tucker,	"	Cincinnati.
Rev. Lucius C. Rouse,	"	St. Joseph.
Rev. Theodore S. Brown,	"	Columbia.
Rev. Wm. G. Hubbard,	"	Cortland.
Rev. E. Richard Tucker,	"	Maumee.
Rev. Charles D. Simpson,	"	Lexington.
Elder Jeremiah Wood,	"	Galena.

The Assembly proceeded to the election of a Moderator. Whereupon Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., of the Presbytery of New York 3d, was unanimously chosen Moderator, and inducted into office in the usual form.

Rev. Robert W. Patterson, of the Presbytery of Chicago, was chosen Temporary Clerk.

Rev. Henry Darling, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia 4th, was chosen Permanent Clerk.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, with the exception of Rules 17 and 18, relating to the previous question, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 9 o'clock A. M. to 1 P. M.; and from 3½ o'clock to 6 P. M.; and that the first half hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises, under the direction of the Moderator.

The printed Minutes of the last Assembly were distributed among the members.

The docket of business was presented and read by the Stated Clerk.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk. [482]

The credentials of Rev. Henry A. Pohlman, D. D., a Delegate from the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, were presented.

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 10 o'clock A. M., to receive Synodical Records, Narratives, Statistical Reports, Educational reports, reports on Church Extension, Overtures, memorials, appeals, and complaints.

Ordered, That, in the absence of the Treasurer, all moneys intended for the Commissioners' Fund be paid, on the rising of the Assembly to-morrow morning, to the Committee on Mileage; and all moneys for the Contingent Fund, be paid into the hands of the Stated Clerk.

Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. D. H. Allen, D. D., and Rev. Mason Noble, were appointed a *Committee to nominate a preacher* on Home Missions for the next Assembly.

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow at 3½ o'clock P. M., to hear reports from Theological Seminaries.

It was made the order of the day for Tuesday next at 3½ o'clock P. M., to hear reports from the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, to be followed by the reception of communications from Corresponding Bodies.

The nomination of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies was made the order of the day for Wednesday morning next, immediately after the devotional exercises; and the election was made the order for Thursday at the same hour.

The Assembly recommended the observance of the second Monday in January as a day of fasting and prayer, for the Conversion of the World; and also the last Thursday in February, as a day of prayer for Colleges.

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow at 12 o'clock, to hear the report of the Church Erection Committee.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 19th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

After which, the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Elder Henry B. Howell, from the Presbytery of		Ottawa.
Elder Thomas B. Carter,	"	Chicago.
Elder John Otto,	"	Buffalo.
Elder George W. Reynolds,	"	Delaware.
Rev. Edmund D. Holt,	"	Keokuk.
Rev. Charles H. Marshall,	"	Logansport. [483]

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees, namely:

1. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—Albert Barnes, Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Alexander Newton, D. D., and Henry Little. *Elders*—Otis Allen, Hon. Arnold Naudain, M. D., and Hon. Orlando Hastings.

2. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., Joel Parker, D. D., Philip C. Hay, D. D., and Thomas Cleland, D. D. *Elders*—Samuel H. Perkins, Augustus Cowdin, and Hon. William I. Cornwell.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—D. Howe Allen, D. D., Gideon N. Judd, D. D., James B. Shaw, D. D., and George S. Boardman. *Elders*—Levi Benedict, Hon. Peter Odlin, and Hon. George W. Shelton.

4. *Church Extension. Ministers*—David H. Riddle, D. D., William Eagleton, D. D., Thornton A. Mills, and George C. Wood. *Elders*—Elisha Taylor, Francis Duncan, and Benjamin J. Cowles.

5. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—John Patton, Abraham D. Pollock, Mason Noble, and Daniel H. Emerson. *Elders*—John H. Bulen, Horace J. Poinier, and James C. Fisher, M. D.

6. *Narrative. Ministers*—William S. Curtis, Grosvenor W. Heacock, George Thacher, and J. Duché Mitchell. *Elders*—Jeremiah Wood, Alexander Abbott, M. D., and Guilford T. Chamberlain.

7. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—Theodore Spencer, William D. Sanders, Joseph R. Page, and Wm. M. Cheever. *Elders*—John C. Hines, John Quigley, M. D., and John L. Boyd.

8. *Mileage. Elders*—James M. Hains, Jacob Gideon, and Samuel Churchill.

The Moderator also announced the following Committees on Synodical Records: namely, on the Records of the Synod of

1. *Albany. Ministers*—John Leighton and John M. Boal. *Elder*—Allen N. Ford.

2. *Utica. Ministers*—A. Augustus Wood and Zerah T. Hoyt. *Elder*—Milton J. Snow.

3. *Geneva. Ministers*—James J. Marks and Eldad Barber. *Elder*—Olney Nichols. [484]

4. *Susquehanna. Ministers*—Joseph Chester and Benjamin Wallace. *Elder*—Raymond Burr.

5. *Genesee. Ministers*—Andrew Blackburn and R. Ransom Kirk. *Elder*—Mather Marvin, M. D.

6. *New York and New Jersey. Ministers*—John Patton and Baruch B. Beckwith. *Elder*—Orin Scovill.

7. *Pennsylvania. Ministers*—William C. White and George Hood. *Elder*—Hiram H. Seelye.

8. *West Pennsylvania. Ministers*—William Hogarth and William E. Moore. *Elder*—Marvin Freeman.

9. *Michigan. Ministers*—John A. Tiffany and John Gray. *Elder*—Timothy R. Porter.

10. *Western Reserve. Ministers*—David Dobie and Henry H. Northrop. *Elder*—Simeon L. Parmelee, M. D.

11. *Ohio. Ministers*—George A. Howard and David Torrey. *Elder*—Orrin Robinson.

12. *Cincinnati. Ministers*—Reed Wilkinson and Peter Snyder. *Elder*—Joel C. Homan.

13. *Indiana. Ministers*—William N. McHarg and Samuel A. Rawson. *Elder*—Martin Heydenburk.

14. *Wabash. Ministers*—George I. King and Joseph L. Riggs. *Elder*—John Kirkpatrick.

15. *Illinois. Ministers*—Joseph Vance and Enoch R. Martin. *Elder*—Daniel Beach.

16. *Peoria. Ministers*—Henry A. Riley and Isaac H. Brayton. *Elder*—Oliver Ely.

17. *Iowa. Ministers*—Alvah Day and William G. Hubbard. *Elder*—William Watson.

18. *Missouri. Ministers*—Alfred Eddy and Calvin Waterbury. *Elder*—Ezra R. Brewer.

19. *Virginia. Ministers*—Eliphaz A. Platt and Franklin Maginnis. *Elder* Elnathan Galpin.

20. *Kentucky. Ministers*—Horatio Pattengill and Benjamin W. Chidlaw. *Elder*—Hon. John C. Bestow.

21. *Tennessee. Ministers*—E. Vine Wales and Henry Callahan. *Elder*—Newell Taft.

22. *West Tennessee. Ministers*—Archer C. Dickerson and Raymond H. Leonard. *Elder*—Nehemiah Hoyt.

23. *Mississippi. Ministers*—Thomas D. Bell and William A. Niles. *Elder*—Matthias Haines, M. D.

The Records of the Synods were called for, and put into the hands of the Committees appointed to examine them.

The Narratives, with the Statistical, Educational, and Church Extension reports were received and put into the hands of the Stated Clerk to be appropriately referred.

The Treasurer's report was received and referred to an *Auditing Committee* consisting of Mr. John C. Hines, Mr. Walter S. Griffith, and Hon. William I. Cornwell.

The report of the Committee of the last Assembly on the subject of [485] printing the sermons of the Moderators of the Assembly, was called for, but no report being made, the Stated Clerk was instructed to correspond with the Committee.

It was made the order of the day for Monday next, at 12 o'clock, to hear the report of the Standing Committee on the publication of Doctrinal Tracts.

The Committee to secure the translation and publication, in the German language, of the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church, and of some book of psalmody, reported that, from providential circumstances, it had been impracticable, and were discharged. The subject was subsequently intrusted to the Standing Committee on the publication of Doctrinal Tracts, to be aided by the Stated and Permanent Clerks.

The Stated Clerk reported, that he had corresponded, as directed by the last Assembly, with the Presbytery of San Francisco.

It was resolved to hear Rev. Isaac H. Brayton, one of the Commissioners from the Presbytery of San Francisco, in relation to the inquiries of the last Assembly, immediately after the Delegates from Corresponding Bodies.

The Committee on Church Erection, through their corresponding secretary, Rev. Thornton A. Mills, presented their report, which was accepted.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 19th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners and Delegates presented their credentials, and their names were placed on the Roll, viz.: Rev. Charles J. Hinsdale, from the General Association of Massachusetts, Rev. Joel Mann, from the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, and Elder Hon. William Darling, from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, 3d.

The Assembly heard reports and statements concerning our Theological Seminaries; from Lane Seminary, through Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D.; and from the Union Theological Seminary, through the Moderator.

A written report was received from the Galena Theological Seminary, after which

A *Committee*, consisting of Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. David Dobie, and Rev. Mason Noble, was appointed to prepare and report a suitable minute upon this subject.

The report of the Church-Erection Committee was referred to a special Committee of nine, to act in connection with the Church-Erection Committee; and it was made the second order of the day for Wednesday morning next, to hear their report. [486]

The Committee on the legacy of Mr. William Brown, late of Greenville, Tenn., reported a letter from Rev. Francis A. McCorkle, of the Presbytery of Holston, informing the General Assembly of the division of the legacy, according to the agreement of a previous Assembly; that the portion due to the Treasury of the Assembly was about $700; and requesting, for reasons specified, that $250 of the amount be given to the Church at Greenville, Tenn., towards the erection of their house of worship. The request of Mr. McCorkle was granted, and, at the request of the Presbytery of Holston, it was ordered, that the balance of this legacy be paid to the Presbytery of Holston to be used in aid of feeble churches for the erection of houses of worship within its bounds.

The responses from Southern Presbyteries to the inquiries of the last Assembly were called for, and ordered to be placed in the hands of the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The Assembly proceeded to determine the place for the meeting of the next General Assembly, and made choice of the city of St. Louis, Mo.

It was thereupon *Resolved*, That the next General Assembly meet in the First Presbyterian church, in the city of St. Louis, on the third Thursday of

May, 1855, at 11 o'clock A. M., and that Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., Rev. William Homes, Rev. Edmund Wright, and the Elders Edward Hale and James H. Bacon, be a *Committee of Arrangements* for the meeting.

The whole subject of the printing of the Minutes of this Assembly was intrusted to the Stated Clerk.

The Committee to nominate a preacher on Home Missions for the next year recommended Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., of the Presbytery of Brooklyn, principal, and Rev. Robert W. Patterson, of the Presbytery of Chicago, alternate. The report was adopted.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for the various pulpits in the city and vicinity, on the ensuing Sabbath.

The Judicial Committee reported, that not a single case of appeal or complaint had been brought to their notice, and the constitutional time for the presentation of such papers having expired, they asked to be discharged. Their request was granted.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 20th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. Half an hour was occupied with devotional exercises. The Roll being called, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were placed on the Roll, viz.: [487]

Elder Philander Stewart, M. D.,	from the Presbytery of	North River.
Rev. Alvin M. Dixon,	"	Illinois.
Rev. James M. Sherwood,	"	Newark.
Elder Charles T. Gorham,	"	Marshall.

The Moderator announced the Special *Committee on the Report of the Church Erection Committee*, as follows, viz., Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. Theodore Spencer, Rev. Thornton A. Mills, Rev. Alexander Newton, D. D., Rev. William Sanders, Hon William Darling, Hon. Orlando Hastings, Hon. Arnold Naudain, M. D., and Mr. Otis Allen.

The Presbyterial Reports on the Education of Young Men for the Ministry were referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

A *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., and Rev. Albert Barnes, was appointed *to prepare a suitable minute* in reference to the decease of Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D., the late Permanent Clerk of the General Assembly.

Adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 22d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. After the usual devotional exercises, the calling of the Roll was dispensed with for the remaining sessions.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee, to whom was referred the framing of a minute on the Theological Seminaries, reported, recommending the adoption of the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, 1. That, in view of the statements made relative to Union Seminary in New York City, and Lane Seminary in Cincinnati, we feel called upon to render thanks to God, and to congratulate the Church and the friends of a sound Christian education, because of the prosperity attend-

ing these schools of the prophets; and so much the more, seeing that prosperity embraces both the confidence of the Church and the means of permanent support; and above all the gracious influences of the Divine Spirit.

"*Resolved*, 2. That we receive with satisfaction the report of the incipient organization of the Seminary at Galena, and sincerely hope that it may speedily rise to a vigorous permanency and usefulness in the broad fields of the Great West.

"*Resolved*, 3. That the existence and prosperity of these seminaries ought to be a matter of joy to our whole denomination, and a conclusive proof, both to ourselves and the world, that the Presbyterian Church, in these United States, has had a noble mission to fulfill, in respect to education and sound doctrine; and that she is nobly and [488] promptly fulfilling it, under the gracious guidance and blessing of Him who is her glorious and sovereign Head."

The Committee of the last Assembly on Romish Baptism made a report, which was accepted.

The minority of the same Committee, through the Moderator, also made a report, which was accepted.

Pending the discussion upon this subject, the Committee on Bills and Overtures reported several Overtures as follows:

No. 1.—On Education and Presbyterial Missionaries, which they recommended the Assembly to answer as follows: that, inasmuch as these subjects were referred to special Committees by the last Assembly, who are to report to this Assembly, they see no occasion for any recommendation thereon.

No. 2.—On a Presbyterian Publication House. The Committee recommended the acceptance of the Overture, and its reference to a special Committee to report to this Assembly.

No. 3.—On the Law Suit. The Committee reported, that, as the subject was referred by the last Assembly to a special Committee, who, it is understood, will report at its present sessions, no recommendation thereon is needed. The report on these Overtures was adopted.

The discussion on the report of the Committee on Romish Baptism was resumed, and continued until the hour for the order of the day, when the Assembly heard the annual report of the Standing Committee appointed to superintend the publication of Doctrinal Tracts. The report was accepted.

The Assembly voted to hear statements from John A. Brown, Esq., of this city, in reference to the Presbyterian Publication House, when the thanks of the Assembly were tendered to Mr. Brown for the information imparted.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 22d, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were placed on the Roll, namely, Elder George M. Newman, of the Presbytery of Hudson; and Elder James W. Weir, of the Presbytery of Harrisburgh.

It was made the first order of the afternoon session of Thursday next, to hear the report of the Committees on Synodical Records.

The unfinished business of the morning—the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on the Publication of Doctrinal Tracts—was resumed; when the following resolution was passed: [489]

Resolved, That the report just read be referred to a select Committee of nine, with directions to consider the whole subject of the publication of Books and Tracts, by authority of the General Assembly, and also Overture No. 2, upon the Presbyterian Publication House; and report such changes in the organization and arrangements of the Standing Committee, as shall appear desirable to give it the greatest efficiency.

The Moderator announced the *Committee*, as follows: Rev. D. H. Riddle, D. D., Rev. A. Blackburn, Rev. W. Hogarth, Rev. R. W. Patterson, Rev. George I. King, Mr. Otis Allen, Hon. G. W. Shelton, Mr. Walter S. Griffith, and Mr. Elisha Taylor.

The discussion of the report of the Committee on Romish Baptism was resumed, and continued until near the close of the session, when it was suspended; and the Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 4, on the distribution of the Church Erection Fund, which they recommended should be referred to the Committee on Church Erection.

It was so referred.

The Committee also reported the absence, through domestic affliction, of one of their number, Hon. Orlando Hastings, and asked that his place should be supplied. The vacancy was filled by the appointment of Mr. James W. Weir, of the Presbytery of Harrisburgh.

Mr. John C. Hines was appointed to take the place of Mr. Hastings, in the Committee on the Report of the Church Erection Committee.

The Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Treasurer, reported that they had examined said accounts, with the accompanying vouchers, and found them correct.

The report was adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 23d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual time had been occupied with devotional exercises, the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

Franklin Knox, M. D., of the Presbytery of San Francisco, presented his credentials, and his name was placed upon the Roll of the Assembly.

The Assemby heard the report of the Committee appointed by the last Assembly to consider and digest a plan for the education of young men for the Gospel ministry. The report was accepted and put upon the docket.

The Assembly heard the report of the Committee of the last Assembly, appointed to confer with the Executive Committees of the American Home Missionary Society, and of the Philadelphia Home Missionary Society. The report was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension. [490]

The Assembly then resumed the discussion of the report of the Committee on Romish Baptism, which was continued until the hour for adjournment.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 23d, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. Wm. L. Tarbet, of the Presbytery of Richland, presented an irregu-

lar Commission, which was referred to Rev. D. H. Allen, D. D., William Eagleton, D. D., and Elder Milton Brayton, as a *Committee on Elections.*

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day. Reports were received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies, viz.:—from Rev. Albert T. Chester, D. D., Delegate to the Synod of the German Reformed Church; from Rev. William Adams, D. D., Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; from Rev. W. C. Wisner, D. D., Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin; from Rev. John N. Lewis, Delegate to the General Association of Connecticut; from Rev. Baruch B. Beckwith, Delegate to the General Conference of Maine; from Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., Delegate to the General Association of New York; from Rev. N. E. Pierson, Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont; and from Rev. A. J. Fennel, Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; all of which were accepted.

Ordered, that the foregoing reports be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

A communication from Rev. R. S. Storrs, Jr., D. D., Delegate from the General Association of New York to this Assembly, apologizing for his unavoidable absence, was received and read.

The Assembly proceeded to hear the Delegates from Corresponding Bodies, in such communications as they desired to present; when Rev. Charles J. Hinsdale, from the General Association of Massachusetts; Rev. Caleb Hobart, from the General Conference of Maine; Rev. John Lewis, from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin; and Rev. H. N. Pohlman, D. D., from the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, made interesting statements in reference to the state of religion within their respective bounds.

A fraternal communication from the Union of the Evangelical Churches of France was received, and referred to a special Committee, consisting of Rev. J. Manning Sherwood, Rev. Theodore Spencer, and Rev. George Thacher.

The Assembly then, agreeably to previous order, heard Rev. Isaac H. Brayton, Commissioner from the Presbytery of San Francisco.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [491]

Wednesday, May 24th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committe on Elections reported, recommending that the name of Rev. William L. Tarbet, of the Presbytery of Richland, who had appeared with an irregular commission, be added to the Roll.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported,

Overture No. 1, being a request of the Synod of Peoria, that a new Synod be formed, to include the Presbyteries of Milwaukee, Fox River, and Minnesota, and that the name of the Synod of Peoria be changed.

In respect to this overture, the Committee recommend the following resolution, viz., Evidence having come before the Committee of a change of sentiment on this subject on the part of those interested in the Overture since the meeting of the Synod, therefore the Assembly take no action in the matter. The report was adopted.

Nominations were made of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

The Committee on the Report of the Church Erection Committee made their report, which was accepted.

The consideration of the report was entered upon, and continued until the hour of the adjournment.

It was made the order of the day for this afternoon at 5 o'clock, to hear the report of the Committee on the Legal Powers, Claims, and Liabilities of the General Assembly.

An invitation was received from Rev. Henry W. Ducachet, D. D., of this city, to visit the monumental statuary in St. Stephen's church. The invitation was accepted for to-morrow, at 1 o'clock P. M., with the thanks of the Assembly.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 24th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Mileage presented their report, stating that there have been paid into the hands of the Committee, from 49 Presbyteries, the sum of $1381.33; and that an apportionment has been made on 58,845 miles of travel, in coming to the Assembly, at the rate of $2.35 for every one hundred miles, and in favor of 79 members, the whole number who have applied for a portion of the fund.

The report was adopted; and, in the absence of the Treasurer, the Committee on Mileage were directed to pay the Commissioners accordingly.

Rev. Charles J. Hinsdale, Delegate from the General Association [492] of Massachusetts, after a short address, to which the Moderator responded, respectfully took his leave.

The unfinished business of the morning—the consideration of the report of the Church Erection Committee—was resumed, and continued until the hour for the special order of the day; when the Assembly heard the report of the Committee of the last Assembly on the Legal Powers, Claims, and Liabilities of the General Assembly.

The report was accepted, and referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The Assembly then resumed the consideration of the Committee's report on Church Erection, and the discussion was continued until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 25th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Half an hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave had been given to Mr. Timothy R. Porter, of the Presbytery of Onondaga; Mr. Martin Heydenburk, of the Presbytery of Kalamazoo, and Rev. Eliphaz A. Platt, of the Presbytery of Geneva.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, for furnishing those of its members, who had traveled over the road, with return tickets gratuitously.

The Assembly proceeded to the first order of the day, viz., the election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, which was referred to a Canvassing Committee.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending, that the

Assembly celebrate the Lord's Supper in this house on the ensuing Sabbath, at 4 o'clock P. M.; that the services be conducted by Rev. T. H. Skinner, D. D., the Moderator of the Assembly; that Rev. G. N. Judd, D. D., administer the Bread, assisted by Rev. A. Newton, D. D.; that Rev. P. C. Hay, D. D., administer the Cup, assisted by Rev. R. W. Patterson; and that the closing hymn be read and benediction pronounced by Rev. William Eagleton, D. D.

And further, that the distribution of the elements be committed to the following elders: Samuel H. Perkins, Jacob Gideon, Franklin Knox, M. D., Otis Allen, Josiah Wilson, John Rice, Mather Marvin, M. D., Oliver Ely, Hon. G. W. Shelton, Matthias Haines, M. D., Johnston Tremper, and John Q. Davidson. The report was adopted.

The Rev. Joel Mann, Delegate from the General Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, after a short address, to which the Moderator responded, respectfully took his leave.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on Church Erection, which, after amendment, was adopted, and is as follows: [493]

CHURCH ERECTION PLAN.

The Church Erection Committee, appointed by the General Assembly of 1853, after a full consideration of the trust committed to them, beg leave to report the following Plan for the proper control and management of the Church Erection Fund.

Preamble.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, now holding its sessions in the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, having, through the liberality of the congregations connected with this body, established a Fund for the purpose of aiding feeble congregations in erecting houses of worship, do hereby adopt the following Plan, under which this Fund shall be held, administered, and used:

Article I.

This Fund having been committed to the General Assembly as a special trust, no part of it as now established, nor any additions which may hereafter be made to it, shall ever be used for any other purpose, than that of aiding feeble congregations in connection with the General Assembly in erecting houses of worship; except so much as may be absolutely necessary to defray the expenses incident to the administration of this Plan.

Article II.

The custody, care, and management of this Fund, and of all securities of every kind belonging to it, or growing out of it, together with all claims, dues, and property, that may at any time pertain to it, and all additions that may hereafter be made to it by donations, bequests, or otherwise, shall be committed to a Board of Trustees, to be called "The Trustees of the Church Erection Fund of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America." The Board shall consist of nine members, four of them being ministers and five of them elders, in connection with some Presbytery or church under the care of the General Assembly, who shall reside in the city of New York, or its immediate vicinity, and whom the General Assembly shall elect by ballot, on a nomination to be made at least one day before such election. The Trustees shall continue in office until the election and induction of their successors. The certificate of the Stated Clerk

of the General Assembly shall be necessary, to entitle a Trustee to take his seat as a member of the Board, which certificate it shall be his duty to furnish as soon as practicable after the election.

The Trustees first elected shall arrange themselves into three equal classes. The term of office of the first class shall expire in one year from their election; that of the second class in two years; and that of the third class in three years. After the first election, the General Assembly shall annually elect three Trustees, to supply the place of the class whose term is about to expire, to hold their office for three years, the same persons always being re-eligible; and each General [494] Assembly shall also by election supply any vacancy in the Board, caused by death, resignation, or otherwise. If any Trustee shall, during the term for which he is elected, cease to be connected with a Presbytery or church under the care of the General Assembly, he shall thereby cease to be a member of the Board; and the vacancy shall be reported to the next General Assembly.

Article III.

The first meeting of the Board shall be held on the second Tuesday of June next in the city of New York, at such place and hour as the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly may appoint, who shall preside until the Board is organized by the choice of its President.

Article IV.

The Board shall make their own By-Laws. They shall annually, at their first meeting after the adjournment of the General Assembly, elect one of their number President of the Board; and shall appoint a Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall give security to the Board for the faithful performance of his duties. They shall keep complete books of record and account, in which shall be recorded all their proceedings, and the true state at all times of all matters relating to this Fund; which records and accounts, or any part of them, shall at all times be open to the inspection of any committee appointed by the General Assembly for this purpose. They shall also keep full and correct copies and files of all the correspondence which may be conducted or received by them, or in their name; and shall annually present to the General Assembly, not later than the third day of its sessions, a full written report of their proceedings and of the state of the Fund, together with any suggestions or recommendations which they may deem necessary or suitable. The General Assembly shall annually appoint a committee of three of its members, to audit the accounts and to examine the securities of the Board, and report at the next General Assembly.

Article V.

The Board are hereby directed, either by procuring a special act of the Legislature of the State of New York, or in accordance with the existing statutes of said State, to incorporate themselves, and their successors in office, always to be elected as aforesaid, into a body corporate and politic, invested with all such legal powers, as may be necessary to enable them to hold and administer this Fund, in conformity with the provisions of this Plan.

Article VI.

The Board are directed, as far as practicable, to keep at interest, on sufficient security, payable on call or short notice, any portion of the Fund that

may not be appropriated by the General Assembly; or, if appropriated, may not be in use in the Synods. [495]

ARTICLE VII.

The Board shall prepare blank forms of all such legal and other papers as may be required in the proper distribution and management of the Fund; and they shall furnish a sufficient quantity of such forms to the Committee on Church Extension of each Synod; the forms so prepared and furnished, and none others, shall be used in all matters and transactions relating to the Fund, to which they may be applicable. They shall designate such legal advisers within the bounds of each Synod, as by a correspondence with the Church Extension Committees of the Synods may be found desirable, to examine all certificates of title, and all conveyances and other documents connected with the loan or donation of any part of this Fund, including a careful investigation in regard to the legal incorporation of the boards of trustees of the congregations concerned; and they shall further have power to appoint an agent in each Synod, and to require that all payments of money that may become due to this Fund shall be made to such agent.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Fund thus established is, in the first instance, hereby appropriated to be used within the bounds of the respective Synods, in the following proportions:

Synod of	Albany,	2.5 per cent.	Synod of	Pennsylvania,	3 per cent.
"	Cincinnati,	3 "	"	Peoria,	7 "
"	Genesee,	3 "	"	Susquehanna,	3 "
"	Geneva,	3 "	"	Tennessee,	4 "
"	Illinois,	6 "	"	Utica,	2.5 "
"	Indiana,	5 "	"	Virginia,	3.5 "
"	Iowa,	5 "	"	Wabash,	5 "
"	Kentucky,	2.5 "	"	Western Reserve,	5 "
"	Michigan,	8 "	"	West Pennsylvania,	3 "
"	Mississippi,	2.5 "	"	West Tennessee,	3 "
"	Missouri,	2.5 "			
"	New York and New Jersey,	15 "			
"	Ohio,	3 "			

ARTICLE IX.

Each General Assembly shall determine the proportion to be appropriated within the bounds of the respective Synods, of any part of the Fund that the Board may have received since the meeting of the preceding General Assembly, by the payment of loans, gifts, legacies, or otherwise; and every such appropriation, without reference to any previous one, shall be made by the General Assembly in view of the relative wants and necessities of the Synods at the time.

ARTICLE X.

If any Synod shall deem it inexpedient to aid their feeble churches in accordance with the provisions of this plan; or shall fail to elect a [496] Committee on Church Extension, to act in conjunction with the Board, as

herein provided; or shall notify the Board that any portion of the amount hereby appropriated to be used within their bounds, or of any amount that may be hereafter so appropriated, is not needed; then, in each of these cases, the General Assembly may, at their discretion, appropriate the portion of the Fund, or any surplus amount, assigned to such Synod, to other Synods in the same manner as is provided for in the preceding article.

Article XI.

In order to be entitled to the use of any portion of the Fund, each Synod connected with the General Assembly shall annually elect a Committee on Church Extension, consisting of at least five members. The Stated Clerk of the Synod shall, immediately after the election of said Committee, transmit to the President or Secretary of the Board his certificate of such election, giving the name and residence of each member.

Article XII.

All applications for aid from the Fund shall be made, in the first instance, to the Committee on Church Extension of the Synod to which the applicants belong, or within whose bounds they are situated. Every such application shall be in writing, and shall particularly state: The location of the house or site for its erection; the number of families or persons attached to the congregation, or that propose to unite in building a house of worship; the description of the house which they propose to build, with its estimated and probable cost, or the description and cost of the house and lot owned by the congregation; the amount of reliable subscriptions which have been obtained, and how much has been paid thereon; the amount of available means possessed by the congregation, if any; whether the congregation is in debt, and if so, to what amount, and when the same becomes due; and also any other facts which may aid the Committee of the Synod in judging of the application. This application shall be accompanied by the certificate of one of the legal advisers of the Board, that the title to the lot on which the house is built or to be built is vested in said congregation, and is free from all legal encumbrance and liability.

Article XIII.

If the Committee of the Synod, to whom application for aid has been made as above provided, shall, after a careful examination into the condition and prospects of the congregation so applying, be satisfied that such congregation have done all that should reasonably be expected of them, and that, with the aid which can be afforded from this Fund, they can build or possess a house of worship adapted to their wants, and be free from other indebtedness than that to this Fund; then the Committee shall sign a certificate addressed to the Board, stating the application, and that they have examined and approved of it; and also stating the amount which it is proper to loan or donate to the congregation. This certificate, together with a copy of the application made to the Committee of the Synod, shall be transmitted to the Board. [497] On the receipt of this certificate and application, the Board shall, as soon as practicable, if the application is in due form, forward the necessary papers, to be executed by the trustees of the congregation, and to be approved by their legal adviser, or some other attorney proposed by the congregation and accepted by the Board. When the papers, so executed, approved, and properly recorded, are returned to the Board, they shall authorize the treasurer of the trustees of the congregation, or any

other person duly appointed by them for this purpose, to draw on the Treasurer of the Board for the amount thus provided for and secured.

Article XIV.

The Board shall not in any case loan or donate any portion of the Fund to any congregation, unless such congregation own, in fee simple and free from all legal incumbrance, the lot on which their house of worship is situated, or on which they propose to build; nor shall any loan or donation be made for the payment of any debt, except that which may have been contracted within one year previous in erecting a house of worship.

The amount loaned to any congregation shall never be more than one-third of the amount contributed for the house and lot, nor exceed the sum of five hundred dollars; nor shall the amount given to any congregation as a donation be in any case more than two hundred dollars, or exceed one-fourth of the amount contributed for their house and lot; nor shall a loan and a donation be made to the same congregation. The donations within the boundaries of any Synod shall never be more than one-fourth of the amount appropriated to that Synod.

All loans shall be made on the following conditions:

1. The principal shall be paid in four equal annual instalments, the first instalment becoming due in three years from the date of the loan.

2. If all the instalments are punctually paid, no interest will be required on any part of the loan.

3. In default of the payment of any instalment, interest shall be required on the whole loan unpaid, from the time of such default, until such instalment, with all the interest that may thus accrue, shall be paid.

The conditions of all donations from this Fund shall be, that, in case the church or congregation shall cease to be connected with the General Assembly, or their corporate existence shall cease, or their house of worship be alienated except for the building or purchase of a better house of worship, they shall refund to the Board the amount which they have so received, with interest from the time of receiving it; and further, that every congregation receiving a donation shall annually make a collection in aid of the Fund, transmitting the same to the Treasurer, until the amount so collected and paid over shall equal the sum received as a donation.

The fulfillment of the above conditions, in respect to both loans and donations, shall in all cases be secured by the bond of the trustees of the congregation, and a mortgage on their house and lot, made in favor [498] of the Board; which bond and mortgage, duly executed and recorded, shall always be placed in the possession of the Board, before any money is paid over to the congregation.

Article XV.

The Board shall not make a loan or donation to any congregation, until the full sum of one hundred thousand dollars shall have been actually paid to the Treasurer of the General Assembly. When this amount has been received, the Treasurer of the General Assembly is hereby directed to pay over the whole amount to the Treasurer of this Fund, upon the written order of the Board, signed by its President and Secretary.

Article XVI.

In accepting this trust and adopting this Plan, the General Assembly hereby declares, that the first article shall admit of no alteration or amend-

ment, and that no change shall be made in any other part of the Plan by any future General Assembly, except by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members, whose names have been entered upon the Roll.

The following resolutions were also adopted:

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly express its full approbation of the action of the last Assembly, for raising the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, as a permanent Fund for Church Erection.

Resolved, 2. That efficient measures should now be taken to make up the deficiency of this Fund, in the shortest time practicable,—say, by the first day of October next.

Resolved, 3. That the Trustees, who are to be appointed to take charge of this whole business, be instructed to make an early and earnest appeal to those churches—more than one-half of our whole number—who have contributed nothing to this Fund, asking their co-operation in this labor of love; that they solicit additional assistance from those who have afforded but slender aid; and that they state our remaining wants to those whose liberality has already abounded.

Ordered that a special Committee be appointed to nominate "The Trustees of the Church Erection Fund of the General Assembly," and the Auditing Committee.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported, that Overtures and memorials have been before them from the following Presbyteries, viz., Hamilton, Long Island, Pennsylvania, Montrose, Watertown, Union, Cortland, Dayton, Indianapolis, Crawfordsville, Madison, Elkhart, Keokuk, Peoria and Knox, Salem, Wabash, and Athens; and from members of the church of Fremont, Indiana: relating to the subject of Slavery.

In reference to these memorials and Overtures, the Committee recommend, that, inasmuch as we believe that, in the present aspects of Divine Providence, the consideration of the subject in this General Assembly is undesirable and inexpedient; and inasmuch as the memorials do not ask for any modification or renewal of the testimony borne [499] by previous Assemblies in regard to the system and practice of Slavery, as existing in this country, or for any expression of opinion as to the proper course to be pursued by future Assemblies, therefore this Assembly take no action on the subject.

The report was adopted.

The Committee, appointed to collect and count the votes, reported that the following persons had been duly elected Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, viz., to the

General Association of Massachusetts—Rev. P. H. Fowler, D. D., principal; and Rev. J. W. McLane, D. D., alternate.

General Association of Connecticut—Rev. George Thacher, principal; and Rev. R. Ransom Kirk, alternate.

General Association of New Hampshire—Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., principal: and Rev. Edward Taylor, alternate.

General Association of New York—Rev. A. E. Campbell, D. D., principal; and Rev. S. W. Fisher, D. D., alternate.

General Conference of Maine—Rev. James B. Shaw, D. D., principal; and Rev. David Torrey, alternate.

General Convention of Vermont—Rev. Bela Fancher, principal; and Rev. Wm. N. McHarg, alternate.

General Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island—Rev. S. T. Spear, D.D., principal; and Rev. W. C. White, alternate.

Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin—Rev. Samuel D. Burchard, D. D., principal; and Rev. Wm. B. Sanders, alternate.

General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States—Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., alternate, in place of Rev. S. Washburn, deceased.

Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States—Rev. Albert Barnes, principal; and Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., alternate.

General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church—Rev. Raymond H. Leonard, principal; and Rev. Archer C. Dickerson, alternate.

The following preamble and resolution, proposed by Elder Walter S. Griffith, were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, It is highly important to our churches, that they be served by competent ministers, who shall be free from worldly cares and avocations; *Whereas*, the law of Christ expressly declares, "that they which preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel," and that he "that is taught in the word" should "communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things," thus making it the solemn duty, as it is clearly the interest, of Christian churches to provide for their ministers a competent and liberal support; *Whereas*, the cost of the necessities of life has advanced so greatly, as to render the salaries heretofore paid to many of our ministers entirely inadequate, causing to them and to their families great anxiety and distress; *And whereas*, this subject demands at this time, and should not fail to attract, the special attention of every Christian; therefore,

Resolved, That the General Assembly earnestly exhort all the [500] churches under their care to consider this question in the spirit of Christian fidelity and liberality, and to make ample provision for those who minister to them in word and doctrine; stipulating so to increase their compensation, when necessary, as to make their salaries fully adequate to their comfortable support, in view of the enhanced expenses of living; and paying the amount agreed upon with honorable and Christian promptitude.

An additional resolution upon this subject was also proposed by Hon. Wm. Darling, pending the consideration of which the Assembly adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 25th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning, to consider the report of the Committee on the Education of Young Men for the Ministry.

The Assembly, agreeably to previous order, proceeded to hear the reports of the Committees on the Synodical Records; and, on the recommendation of the respective Committees, the Records of the following Synods were approved, as far as written: Albany, Utica, Geneva, Susquehanna, Genesee, New York and New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Michigan, Western Reserve, Ohio, Cincinnati, Indiana, Peoria, Iowa, West Tennessee, Virginia, and Missouri.

The Records of the Synod of Wabash were approved, with the following exceptions:

(1.) On pages 51 and 52, the Synod met and proceeded to business without reading the Minutes of the previous day's session.

(2.) On page 59, the Synod closed its annual sessions and adjourned, without reading or approving the Minutes of the Clerk.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Illinois reported, and recommended their approval, as far as written, except in the case of the action of that body, as recorded on page 415, sustaining the act of the Moderator of the Synod in changing the time of its annual meeting. The report was adopted.

The Records of the Synod of Tennessee were approved with the following exceptions:

(1.) On page 34, it appears from the Record, that the Synod adjourned at the close of the day, without prayer.

(2.) On page 36, it is recorded that the Synod was *constituted* with prayer, it being the second day of the sessions of the Synod.

(3.) The Records are not attested by the Stated Clerk.

The Records of the Synod of Mississippi were approved, with the following exception: that the book has not been presented for review since 1846.

The Records of the Synod of Kentucky were approved, with the following exceptions: [501]

(1.) Verbal errors on page 169.

(2.) No record of prayer in page 176.

(3.) Records not approved by the Synod, and some not attested by the Stated Clerk.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the consideration of the resolution upon ministerial support, was resumed, when its postponement was moved, with a view to the introduction of a remonstrance against the Nebraska and Kansas bill now pending in the Congress of the United States.

The Moderator decided that the motion was not in order.

From this decision an appeal was taken and sustained.

The motion for postponement was lost.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 26th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual time had been occupied with devotional exercises, the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been given to Rev. Messrs. J. B. Shaw, D. D., Eli B. Smith, and F. Maginnis; and to the Elders Allen N. Ford, Levi Benedict, T. B. Carter, A. Cowdin, John Quigley, M. D., O. Scovill, C. T. Gorham, E. Fullenwider, and P. B. Ackart.

The Moderator announced the *Committee to nominate* the *Trustees* of the Church Erection Fund of the General Assembly, and the Auditing Committee, as follows: Mr. Elisha Taylor, Rev. J. Manning Sherwood, Rev. Thornton A. Mills, Hon. William Darling, and Franklin Knox, M. D.

The Assembly proceeded, agreeably to a previous order, to consider the report of the Committee appointed by the last Assembly, to digest a plan for the education of young men for the Gospel ministry. After considerable discussion, the further consideration of the subject was postponed, and the Assembly heard Rev. John N. Lewis, in reference to the "Central American Education Society;" and Rev. Theron Baldwin in reference to the "Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education at the West."

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 26th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Rev. E. R. Fairchild, D. D., addressed the Assembly in behalf of the American and Foreign Christian Union, after which the following resolutions were adopted: [502]

Resolved, 1. That the remarkable state of things in the papal world, especially in France, the kingdom of Sardinia, Belgium, Ireland, Canada, Brazil, New Granada, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Hayti, invites and imperatively demands prompt, wisely-devised, and effectively prosecuted measures, on the part of all evangelical Christians in our country and Protestant lands, to introduce and to diffuse in them all the blessings of the glorious Gospel.

Resolved, 2. That in the success, which has attended the labors of the American and Foreign Christian Union to enlighten and save the millions of Romanists, who have already found a home in our happy country, as well as to evangelize the papal nations abroad, this Assembly finds a strong argument for confidence and co-operation on the part of all evangelical Christians, patriots, and friends of our country generally; and they cordially commend it again to the sympathies and liberal patronage especially of the congregations under their care.

In view of the statements made in the morning by Rev. Theron Baldwin, in reference to the "Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education at the West," the following resolutions were also adopted:

Resolved, 1. That the permanent establishment of institutions of learning of the highest order, and under Christian influence, at the West, is a work essential to the adequate supply of that land with a thoroughly educated and evangelical ministry, and therefore essential to the completeness and full efficiency of our system of evangelism in those new and rising States.

Resolved, 2. That the Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education at the West, through whose instrumentality some institutions have been saved from extinction, and others raised from a state of great depression to one of efficiency and hope, and whose helping hand is extended to similar educational institutions, as they are demanded on our rapidly enlarging Home Missionary field, deserves the continued confidence, the sympathy, and the liberal aid of our churches, that it may carry to a successful completion its benevolent mission.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, to whom was referred the report on the subject of the Legal Powers, Claims, and Liabilities of the General Assembly, submitted the following report:

1. *Whereas* we regard the rights of this body as complete under the charter of 1799, therefore no action is required in respect to a new charter.

2. It is recommended that the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund endeavor to have inserted in the act of incorporation, which they are instructed to obtain from the Legislature of the State of New York, a general provision authorizing them to hold in trust for this Assembly any property committed to them by donations, bequests or otherwise.

3. It is recommended, that, provided this General Assembly appoint a Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian Publication House, or for any other specific purpose, in the city of Philadelphia, that that Board [503] obtain a special act of incorporation under the laws of this State; and that a Committee of three members of the legal profession be appointed, to whom the subject shall be committed, with instruction to examine and determine the question, whether a general provision in said charter or act of incorporation, like that provided for in the preceding article, will, in respect to all the interests of the Church, be safe and expedient; and, if they so judge, to secure its insertion. The report was adopted, and Messrs. Samuel H. Perkins, Henry J. Williams, and Hon. William Darling were appointed the Committee.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on the Education of Young Men for the Ministry.

Pending the discussion upon this subject, the Assembly took a recess of half an hour.

The Assembly met, after the recess, and resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, which was afterwards postponed, and

Rev. Joseph C. Stiles, D. D., addressed the Assembly in reference to the Southern Aid Society.

The Committee appointed to nominate the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, and the Auditing Committee, made a report and presented a list of candidates for these offices.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning, to hear the Narrative of the State of Religion.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 27th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. Half an hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave had been given to Rev. Messrs. George C. Wood, W. D. Sanders, Enoch Kingsbury, J. J. Marks, and R. R. Kirk; and to the Elders, John Emerson, Wm. Watson, H. H. Seelye, Hon. F. M. Finch, B. J. Cowles, and C. Kingsbury.

The following resolution upon the subject of Temperance was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the General Assembly continue to view, with deep interest, the progress of the Temperance Reformation, most intimately connected with the vital interests of men for time and eternity; and they do especially hail its new phase through the action of several State Legislatures, by which the traffic in intoxicating liquors as a beverage is entirely prohibited. They commend this new system of legislation to the attention and support of all ministers and churches connected with this body, for its blessed results, already experienced; and as able, if universally adopted, to do much to seal up the great fountains of drunkenness, pauperism, and crime, and relieve humanity of one of its most demoralizing and distressing evils.

The Committee on the Narrative of the State of Religion made their [504] report, which was adopted. The Narrative was ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes, and it was recommended that it be read to each of our congregations on the Sabbath.

The Committee on the Report of the Doctrinal Tract Committee and Presbyterian Publication House made their report, which was accepted and ordered to be placed upon the docket.

The Assembly then took up the unfinished business of yesterday, viz., the consideration of the report of the Committee on the Education of Young Men for the Ministry. Before the question upon its adoption was taken, the Assembly adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

The Assembly met, agreeably to previous arrangements, on the Sabbath, 28th, at 4 o'clock P. M., in the First Presbyterian church, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and, in union with a large number of Christians, who accepted the invitation to participate with them, united in the celebration of this ordinance.

Monday, May 29th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. Half an hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a memorial on Presbyterial Education, on which they recommended that no action be taken. The report was adopted.

Also, an Overture respecting a new Digest; and recommended that a Committee of three be appointed to prepare and publish such a Digest, if it can be done without expense to the Assembly. The report was adopted.

Also, a memorial in relation to infirm ministers, recommending that it be read, and referred to a special Committee of three to report to the next Assembly. The report was adopted.

The Committee on Church Extension made their report, which was accepted and ordered to be placed upon the docket.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been given to Rev. Messrs. G. S. Boardman, E. R. Tucker, Zerah T. Hoyt, R. Wilkinson, Alvah Day, and A. Jones; and to the Elders, John Otto, Samuel Bond, H. Hudson, and Peter Odlin.

The following protest against the action of the Assembly upon the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures upon the memorials and Overtures of several Presbyteries relative to the subject of Slavery; signed by twenty-eight of its members, was presented and ordered to be entered upon the Minutes. [505]

"The undersigned respectfully protest against the action of the General Assembly upon the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures upon the memorials and Overtures of several Presbyteries relative to the subject of Slavery; because that action, under the circumstances, is virtually saying to the Presbyteries in the slaveholding States, that the action of the last preceding General Assembly, in requesting "distinct and full statements touching" the three points then specified, is not approved by this General Assembly; and that the present Assembly is satisfied with the neglect and refusal to answer those inquiries, and does not deem them even of sufficient importance to the peace or the purity of the Church to repeat the request for an answer at the next General Assembly; also, because it will and must be construed into a willingness to cease all direct effort to disconnect itself from the sin of Slavery; and, in this particular, is a receding from the high and laudable position heretofore assumed; and for the further reason, that it places this branch of the Christian Church in the apparent position of diminishing its efforts to eradicate a great and growing evil, at the very period when the efforts for its extension and perpetuity are strongest and most reprehensible as well as unscrupulous; and when there is also the best prospect for the labors of the Church to be successful; and has the appearance of being willing to abandon the field, rather than stem the flood of iniquity rolling in upon the Church and the country.

"William I. Cornwell, Andrew Loose, B. W. Chidlaw, David Dobie, Joseph Lewis, Jacob E. Conrad, Enoch Kingsbury, Alvah Day, R. Wilkinson, W. M. Allison, Zerah T. Hoyt, A. Blakely, John C. Bestow, John A. Tiffany, Nehemiah Hoyt, George W. Warner, Olney Nichols, Levi Griswold, Elnathan Galpin, John Summers, Raymond Burr, Lucius C. Rouse, Amos Jones, Joseph L. Riggs, Henry Bushnell, Milton J. Snow, Samuel A. Rawson, George W. Reynolds, Eldad Barber."

It was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures to draw up an

answer to the above protest, who subsequently reported the following, which was adopted:

In answer to the protest against the resolution adopted in respect to the subject of Slavery, the Assembly deem it sufficient to say, that the reasons assigned for the resolution are the only ones for which they are justly responsible; and further, that constructions are placed upon the resolution, by the protestants, which are not authorized by the act of the Assembly.

The Moderator announced the following Committees: *On the Memorial with Reference to Infirm Ministers*, Mr. Samuel H. Perkins, Hon. Arnold Naudain, M. D., and Hon. William Darling; *On the Publication of a New Digest*, Rev. Messrs. George Duffield, Jr., Henry Darling, and William E. Moore.

The Stated Clerk was added to this Committee.

The election of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, and the Auditing Committee, was made the first order of the day for this afternoon.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Com- [506] mittee on the Education of Young Men for the Ministry; and, having been amended, the report was adopted, and is as follows:

In view of the alarming deficiency of ministers of the Gospel, compared with the demand, and for the purpose of giving unity and efficiency to the efforts of the Church to furnish a more adequate supply, by means of necessary pecuniary aid to candidates for the ministry,

Resolved, 1. A Committee of nine shall be appointed by each General Assembly, to be styled "The Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry." A majority of this Committee shall reside in or near the city of Philadelphia, and five of them shall constitute a quorum.

Resolved, 2. A General Secretary of Education shall be elected annually by the Assembly, if a suitable person can be found; and, if no election is made by the Assembly, the office may be filled by the Standing Committee.

Resolved, 3. The "Central American Education Society," at New York, and the "Philadelphia Education Society," of Philadelphia shall be, and they are hereby, constituted co-ordinate agencies of the Assembly, for the purposes for which those Societies are organized; provided the Directors of those Societies respectively will consent to act in such a capacity, and will make an annual report to the Standing Committee, as early as the 1st of May, of all that they have done in connection with the Presbyterian Church.

Resolved, 4. The Synods are all requested to take action on this subject, at their next meeting, and to determine whether they will co-operate directly, or through their respective Presbyteries, with either of the above-named agencies, and, if so, with which; and report their action to the Standing Committee of the Assembly. Or, if they so elect, they are desired to act by means of a Standing Committee of their own; or by agencies constituted by the joint action of neighboring Synods; which committees or agencies shall report directly to the Assembly's Committee.

Resolved, 5. The Presbyteries also are desired to determine their plan of action, and to co-operate through one or the other of the above-named agencies; or through the Synodical Committee; or directly by correspondence with the Assembly's Committee.

Resolved, 6. The duties of the Assembly's Committee shall be, to superintend the whole cause in behalf of the Assembly; to direct the movements of the Secretary; to nominate to the Assembly, from year to year, a suitable person to fill that office; and, if none be elected by the Assembly, or if the office for any other cause become vacant, to fill it until the meeting of the next Assembly; and to determine, by conference with the Philadelphia and New York agencies, concerning the mode in which his salary and the

expenses of the office shall be procured—whether by subscriptions obtained for that specific purpose, or by collections made by himself, or by the agencies jointly.

The Committee shall also recommend to the Assembly, from year to year, any modifications of the plan of operations which experience may show to be needful; and, so far as they can obtain the facts, they shall make a full report of all that has been done throughout the [507] Church, in behalf of education for the ministry; which report shall supersede the Educational report, provided for by the action of the Assembly of 1852.

Resolved, 7. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of Education, to visit, as far as may be, the Synods and Presbyteries throughout our bounds, for the purpose of awakening the interest, and concentrating the energies, of the whole Church; to visit the colleges and seminaries where young men aided by the Church are pursuing their studies, for the purpose of counsel and encouragement, and for the purpose of presenting to young men the claims of the ministry upon them; and to present the cause to the churches, as he may have opportunity, and collect funds as directed by the Assembly's Committee.

Resolved, 8. It is recommended to the agencies and committees, to endeavor to have the young men aided by the Church, especially in their theological studies, placed under the care of Presbyteries, and that in all ordinary cases they be licensed by those Presbyters where they naturally belong. [See Form of Government, Chap. XIV., sec. 2.]

A *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Messrs. D. H. Emerson, G. S. Boardman, Mason Noble, G. I. King, and George Thacher, were appointed *to nominate* the members of the Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry.

The Moderator appointed Rev. B. B. Beckwith, and Rev. L. H. Pease as a *Canvassing Committee* on the election of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund and the Auditing Committee.

The Assembly entered upon the consideration of the report of the Committee on Doctrinal Tracts and the Presbyterian Publication House.

Pending its discussion, the Assembly adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 29th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Resolved, That when the Assembly adjourn, this afternoon, they adjourn to meet this evening at 7¾ o'clock.

The thanks of the Assembly were tendered to Rev. Robert Baird, D. D., for valuable documents presented to its members.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of the morning; and the report of the Committee on Doctrinal Tracts and the Presbyterian Publication House, having been amended, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee, to whom was referred the report on Doctrinal Tracts, and also the Overture from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, on the subject of a Presbyterian Publication House, report, that [508] they concur cordially in the expressions of the report on the subject of the Press, and its great importance as an organ of usefulness; also, on the desirableness of a religious literature suitable to the wants of our denomination; and congratulate the Assembly on the prospect that this want will be supplied by the future efficiency of this Committee.

Your Committee, moreover, fully concur in the views of the report, as to

the inexpediency of ourselves entering upon the business of printing, and the superior advantages of doing the work by the agency of existing printing establishments.

Your Committee recommend that extracts from the report, to be made by the Committee, be published in the Appendix to the Minutes of the Assembly.

Your Committee further recommend, that the Publication Committee be enlarged to the number of fifteen, nine of whom shall reside in the city of Philadelphia, or vicinity; that, of this number, five shall constitute a quorum for ordinary business, whose sittings shall be in the city of Philadelphia; but nothing shall be authorized for publication, issued, or endorsed, by said Committee, except by a majority of its members. All publications to issue simultaneously in the two cities of New York and Philadelphia, with the *imprimatur* of the Committee.

The Committee finally recommend, that the Assembly take its possession of the house in Philadelphia, referred to in the Overture from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth, as a House of Publication, on the terms and conditions, as to the price and payments, following, viz.:

The General Assembly will authorize the conditional acceptance of the property, so soon as $12,500 shall have been pledged by responsible persons, connected with the churches of Philadelphia; and, when this pledge has thus been made, suitable measures shall be authorized to raise a like sum of $12,500; and the balance—say $20,000—shall be left on mortgage, to be liquidated by a sinking fund arising from the annual proceeds of the house. When the measures to complete the purchase have been perfected, the Assembly will take the property unconditionally; and, to the end that the legal measures may be taken to perfect the title prior to the next meeting of the Assembly, five trustees of the House of Publication shall be elected, who shall be authorized to obtain an act of incorporation.

The members of the Publication Committee, whose term of office expires at this time, are Rev. Thos. H. Skinner and Geo. Duffield, Jr. In addition to these, the Committee recommend the appointment of thirteen others; and that this Committee arrange themselves, at their first meeting, into three classes, five going out of office yearly.

A *Committee* of three, consisting of Rev. S. T. Spear, D. D., Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., and Rev. Wm. N. McHarg, were appointed *to nominate* the members of the Doctrinal Tract Committee, and Trustees for the Presbyterian Publication House.

The Committee appointed to collect and count the votes for Trustees of the Church Erection Fund and the Auditing Committee, reported that the following persons had been unanimously elected: [509]

Trustees of the Church Erection Fund—Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., and Messrs. Walter S. Griffith, William E. Dodge, Norman White, Oliver H. Lee, and Stephen H. Thayer.

Auditing Committee—Mr. Otis Allen, Hon. William Darling, and Mr. John C. Hines.

Adjourned until 7¾ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 29th, 7¾ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Committee of the last Assembly on Forms of Worship made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed to consider the memorial of Wm. Stephenson, on the subject of "Church Music," and "Forms of Worship," and also an overture submitted to the last Assembly on the same subject, beg leave to report:

That they unanimously coincide in the opinion, that no action which the Assembly can take would be likely to accomplish the result sought to be secured, viz.: uniformity of posture during prayer and singing; a standard collection of church tunes; and congregational singing. A greater measure of uniformity, in respect to these and some other particulars in our worship, is undoubtedly desirable. It is well, that we have a sound theology and a Scriptural worship. It were well, that that worship should be conducted in the best possible way, so as to be most effectual for edification. But, inasmuch as the Bible does not enjoin precisely the tunes to be used, the posture to be adopted, or who shall join in the songs of the sanctuary; leaving these, and many other particulars in the conduct of public worship, to be determined by the churches in the exercise of their Christian liberty, guarded by a sound discretion; and, inasmuch as different customs have prevailed in different parts of the country, indicating a diversity of judgment and of taste in respect to these matters; this diversity of judgment and of taste, and the somewhat diverse practices resulting therefrom being more likely to be overcome by Christian intercourse, and friendly discussion, and interchange of sentiment, than by legislation; therefore the Committee would recommend no action in the case, and ask to be released from the further consideration of the subject.

The traveling expenses of the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, and Wisconsin, and to the Synod of the German Reformed Church; the janitor's bill; the bills for printing and stationery; with the salary and mileage of the Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

The expenses incurred by Rev. A. D. Eddy, D. D., in the perform[510]ance of duties connected with a Committee of the Assembly; and of Rev. Henry Little, a Delegate to the General Association of Connecticut in the year 1849, were allowed and ordered to be paid.

The subject of printing the Moderator's sermons was indefinitely postponed.

The Committee to nominate members of the Doctrinal Tract Committee, and Trustees for the Presbyterian Publication House, made the following report, which was adopted:

Publication Committee—Rev. A. Barnes, Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., LL.D., Rev. William Eagleton, D. D., Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. S. H. Gridley, Rev. A. H. H. Boyd, D. D., Rev. S. T. Spear, D. D., Rev. George Duffield, Jr., Rev. H. Darling, Rev. J. Jenkins, and Messrs. S. H. Perkins, S. T. Bodine, C. S. Wurts, and E. S. Wheelan.

Trustees of the Presbyterian Publication House—Messrs. J. A. Brown, S. H. Perkins, C. S. Wurts, M. M. Baldwin, and J. C. Farr.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, and the Committee on Devotional Exercises, severally reported that no business was before them, and asked to be discharged. Their request was granted.

The Committee to whom was referred the communication from the "Union of the Evangelical Churches of France," presented a report, recommending the draft of a reply to their letter, and several resolutions, which were adopted, and are as follows:

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly do hereby cordially assent to the request of the brethren of the Union of the Evangelical Churches of France, to enter into correspondence with them.

Resolved, 2. That Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., of the Presbytery of Newark, be, and hereby is, delegated by this Assembly, to the Synod of said Union, which is to meet at Mazamet, Department du Tarn, on the fourth Thursday of August next, and that he be requested to convey to them the expression of our fraternal regard and Christian sentiments.

Resolved, 3. That the Stated Clerk be directed to forward to Rev. J. F. Stearns, D. D., the accompanying letter, together with a certificate of his appointment.

It was also *Resolved*, That the communication from France, and the response of the Assembly, be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Committee on the decease of Rev. E. W. Gilbert, D. D., presented the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

Whereas it has pleased God, since the last General Assembly, to remove to his heavenly rest Rev. Eliphalet W. Gilbert, D. D., the late Permanent Clerk of this body; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we record on our Minutes our testimony to his great worth, his sound piety, and his unselfish regard for the interests of the whole Church, as well as fidelity in discharging the duties of his office; and that, while we deplore his loss, we desire that this unexpected bereavement may be felt by us all as a solemn admonition to be ever prepared for the coming of our Lord.

Resolved, 2. That the Stated Clerk be directed to send to the family of Dr. Gilbert a copy of these resolutions. [511]

The following report was presented from the Committee of the last Assembly on Foreign Presbyteries:

The correspondence with ministers in connection with our Church on foreign missionary ground, laboring under the direction of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, has been carried out according to the instructions of the General Assembly.

More than twenty responses have been received, in answer to the Committee's circular. These communications are characterized by a thoughtful discrimination, a spirit of sincere regard for our Church, and a desire to secure harmonious and successful action in the prosecution of the missionary work.

From a careful review of this correspondence, and a consideration of the whole subject, your Committee would recommend,

1. That this Assembly regard it as inexpedient to take any measures, at present, for organizing Presbyteries or churches on foreign missionary ground.

2. That an annual correspondence be recommended to be kept up between our foreign missionaries and the Presbyteries to which they respectively belong.

3. That, inasmuch as it has hitherto been found to be impracticable to form distinctive Presbyterian organizations among the converted heathen, and inasmuch as the obstacles which have hitherto existed may possibly be removed by further conference with our foreign missionaries and with the Prudential Committee of the A. B. C. F. M., a Standing Committee of five ministers shall be appointed, who shall take charge of this whole subject, correspond further with our missionaries and the Prudential Committee above referred to, and report to the Assembly from year to year.

The report was adopted; and Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., Rev. David O. Allen, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., and Rev. Henry Darling, were appointed the *Standing Committee* provided for in this report.

Messrs. Samuel H. Perkins, John A. Brown, and Thomas Fleming were appointed a *Committee for the* purpose of securing the $12,500 necessary to secure the *purchase of the Presbyterian Publication House.* It was also

Resolved, That one member of every Synod be appointed to take measures, each within the bounds of his own Synod, to obtain the remaining $12,500.

The Assembly adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 30th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual time spent in devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [512]

The following individuals were appointed as the *Synodical Committees* in accordance with the resolution of the last session:

For the Synod of	Albany,	Rev. E. M. Rollo.
" "	Utica,	" B. B. Beckwith.
" "	Geneva,	" Henry A. Nelson.
" "	Susquehanna,	" Henry Callahan.
" "	Genesee,	" Wm. C. Wisner, D. D.
" "	N. Y. and N. J.,	Mr. Anson G. Phelps, Jr.
" "	Pennsylvania,	Hon. William Darling.
" "	West "	Rev. D. H. Riddle, D. D.
" "	Michigan,	" G. C. Curtis.
" "	West'n Reserve,	" Raymond H. Leonard.
" "	Ohio,	" H. L. Hitchcock.
" "	Cincinnati,	" S. W. Fisher. D. D.
" "	Indiana,	" John M. Bishop.
" "	Wabash,	" James H. Johnston.
" "	Illinois,	" John Blatchford, D. D.
" "	Peoria,	" Harvey Curtis.
" "	Iowa,	Mr. L. D. Parsons.
" "	Missouri,	Rev. Timothy Hill.
" "	Virginia,	Mr. Samuel Reeve.
" "	Kentucky,	Rev. Archer C. Dickerson.
" "	Tennessee,	" Samuel Sawyer.
" "	West "	Mr. James M. Bright.
" "	Mississippi,	Rev. Charles M. Atkinson.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Rev. Messrs. L. H. Reid, Wm. Warth, P. C. Hay, D. D., A. M. Dixon, Peter Snyder, W. G. Hubbard, M. Huggins, H. Pattengill, C. Waterbury, G. I. King, Levi Griswold, A. Eddy, E. Vine Wales, and Bela Fancher; and to the Elders, O. Robinson, Newell Taft, A. Abbott, M. D., O. Ely, Peter Odlin, G. W. Reynolds, J. Kirkpatrick, Otis Allen, B. Corwin, S. H. Hungerford, H. Osborne, E. Galpin, P. Stewart, M. D., and J. C. Homan.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report on Romish Baptism, and the whole subject was indefinitely postponed.

The following preamble and resolution upon the subject of the Church Erection Fund were unanimously adopted.

Whereas, The Church Erection Fund of $100,000 must be complete before any part of it can be used;

Whereas, The amount thus far pledged to the Fund, appears to be less than $80,000, about $50,000 of which has been placed in the Treasury, and

nearly $20,000 is held by the churches or individuals pledging the same, to be paid to the Treasurer as soon as they are notified that the $100,000 is secured;

And *whereas*, It is of the highest importance to our feeble churches, that they soon obtain the aid which they have anticipated from the Fund, and for which they have waited in the hope and expectation of prompt relief after the sitting of this Assembly.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the General Assembly hereby direct the [513] Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund to take measures immediately to lay the subject before our churches, and especially those of them who have not yet contributed to the Fund; and they earnestly exhort their brethren to come forward to the discharge of their duty towards this object, with promptness and liberality; so that this great enterprise may be speedily complete.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient for the Assembly to proceed to the election of Trustees of the General Assembly and of Directors of the Theological Seminaries for the present year.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported that no business was before them, and asked to be discharged; their request was granted.

The report of the Committee on Church Extension was taken from the docket, and having been amended, was adopted and is as follows:

The General Assembly of 1852, in adopting a plan for the extension of the Church, required each Presbytery to render an annual report on that subject, designed to indicate the condition and progress of the churches in external affairs, much in the same way that their spiritual state is presented in the Narratives of the State of Religion. These reports were to be condensed and presented to the Assembly by the Committee on Church Extension, with any additional suggestions calculated to promote the enlargement of the Church.

This Committee regret to state, that not more than one-fourth of the Presbyteries have complied with the requirements of the Assembly; and many of these reports are too indefinite to be of any use for the purposes designed. Enough however has been reported to show, in no inconsiderable degree, the outward prosperity of our churches. Many Presbyteries are seeking enlargement, and are hindered only by the want of ministers, and of suitable places of worship. We cannot avoid the expression of the conviction, that the fact, that about half of the ministry engaged in pastoral labor are stated supplies and not pastors, has a most injurious influence upon the prosperity of the churches. Where no permanent and regular connection exists, and frequent changes are made, no permanent and satisfactory results can be secured.

The facts communicated in these reports are so miscellaneous, that the Committee must excuse themselves from the service of classifying them. The result would be too imperfect to afford any information to the Assembly.

The reports on Education for the Ministry, from the same Presbyteries, show that but partial attention has been given to the subject in a few of the churches. The general interest felt concerning it is very far below what it should be, for it is second to no other. We believe it will never receive the consideration becoming its importance, until our churches shall cease to rely upon any organizations, either ecclesiastical or voluntary, to discharge their duties, and shall make it a matter of daily and prayerful concern among themselves.

The Committee think it highly desirable, that the information sought

through these reports should, from year to year, be communicated to [514] the Assembly; but they believe, from the experience of the past two years, that it will not readily be done through these separate reports. They therefore propose a change in the manner of communicating it to the Assembly, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Presbyteries be directed to forward yearly to the General Assembly, in connection with the Narratives of the State of Religion, a statement of such facts indicating their outward progress, as were called for in the reports required by the Assembly of 1852; and that the Committee on the preparation of the General Assembly's Narrative shall hereafter incorporate them into the Narrative, as far as they may be of special interest to the churches.

In reference to the report of the Committee of Conference with the American Home Missionary Society and the Philadelphia Home Missionary Society, your Committee would recommend as follows: That the Assembly design and desire that the Presbyteries should continue to co-operate with the American Home Missionary Society and the Philadelphia Home Missionary Society; that, the difficulties apprehended being all happily adjusted, they see no occasion to create any other instrumentality.

The Committee on Church Extension, having completed their business, were discharged.

The resolution on ministerial support, offered on Thursday last, was, by permission of the Assembly, withdrawn.

A member of the Committee appointed by the last Assembly, to report on the Rights of Conscience, reported that they had not been called together, and the Committee were discharged.

The Committee to nominate members of the *Standing Committee on Education* for the Gospel Ministry, presented the following nomination, which was adopted: Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. J. J. Owen, D. D., Rev. A. A. Wood, Rev. George Duffield, Jr., Hon. William Darling, Mr. Thomas Fleming, Mr. William Purves, and Mr. J. B. Pinneo.

The choice of a Secretary of Education was referred, in accordance with the Plan, to the Standing Committee.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the Committee on Church Erection, for the faithful, efficient, and able manner in which they have performed the duties assigned them.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the citizens of Philadelphia, who have extended their hospitality to the Commissioners and others in attendance, and have contributed to make their stay in this city so peculiarly pleasant; with the assurance of our fervent prayer that the blessing of God in connection with this Assembly may rest upon them.

Also, that the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the Committee of Arrangements, for their promptness and activity in providing for our comfort.

Also, that the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the Trustees of the first Presbyterian church of this city, for the accommodations extended to the Assembly during their present sessions. [515]

Also, that the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the Waverly Ice Company, for supplying us with ice.

Thanks were also tendered to the Moderator, Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., for his dignified, kind, and impartial discharge of the duties of his office.

The Minutes of the session were read and approved.

The calling of the Roll was dispensed with.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for the dissolving of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved; and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the first Presbyterian church in the city of St. Louis, on the third Thursday of May, 1855, at 11 o'clock A. M.

HENRY DARLING, *Permanent Clerk.*

Philadelphia, May 30th, 1854.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1854.

From somewhat more than half only of the entire number of Presbyteries in connection with the General Assembly, have Narratives of the State of Religion been received. The information furnished, however, may be regarded as descriptive of the state of religion generally within our bounds. The moral landscape spread out before us, though containing barren spots to mar its beauty, presents, nevertheless, a wide extent of fertility and spiritual fruitage. Our hearts are made to rejoice, and the deepest feelings of gratitude to our heavenly Father are excited within us. With equal admiration as expressed by the Psalmist, and adopting his language, though in a spiritual and not a physical sense, we exclaim, "Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion."

Temporal Prosperity.

The temporal condition of the churches is highly gratifying. The unparalleled prosperity of the country, which attends all branches of business, reacts favorably upon the pecuniary interests of the Church. As a consequence, many churches have been relieved of debt, more than forty new edifices are reported as having been erected during the year past, quite a large number are now in the process of being built, and many old ones have been repaired, or entirely remodelled and beautified.

The churches generally meet their pecuniary obligations to their pastors. Some have set the example, worthy to be imitated, of increasing ministerial support, as the materials of living have advanced in value. Much still remains to be done in this direction, before it can be said in its true sense, "They that serve at the altar shall live of the altar."

The subject of Temperance has engaged a large share of public attention during the year past, especially in the shape of a prohibitory law against the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks. The people of God, almost without exception, are in favor of such a measure. And it is hoped, that the time is not far distant, when such a law shall be universally adopted and enforced.

Convictions of duty, as to the reforms of the day, have become settled; so that causes which, in years past, affected more or less the tranquillity of the Church, are now but slightly felt. The pastoral relation is more permanent, and never were our churches in a more united and peaceful state.

Benevolence.

The various objects of benevolence have been met, during the year, with increased liberality on the part of Christians. It was feared by some, that the attempt to raise one hundred thousand dollars for the purposes of Church Erection would materially diminish the amount contributed to other objects. We are happy to state, that such has not been the result. On the contrary, while this enterprise has been in progress, the churches have actually increased their contributions in other directions. We regret that so large a number of churches have contributed nothing to this fund, and that the full amount has not yet been raised; but hope that the remainder will speedily be made up.

Spiritual Condition.

In regard to the special spiritual condition of our beloved Zion we find much to gratify and encourage our hearts. The ordinances of Christ's house, Baptism and the Lord's Supper, are generally observed. Attendance on the preached word is good; Christians are edified; the deepest solemnity often sits upon the countenances of multitudes of perishing men, and many of them are converted to God. Sabbath-schools generally are in a prosperous condition, and it is manifest that the blessing of God attends the institution. Many new Bible-classes have been organized. But what is peculiarly gratifying in this connection is the extent to which catechetical instruction is given. In several instances, pastors have revived the old custom of meeting the children at stated seasons, and questioning them as to their knowledge of doctrinal truth, thus guarding them against the errors of the day, and embedding, in their minds and hearts and consciences, truth that shall live, when corrupted Christianity and every false theory on the subject of religion shall have passed away.

Churches and Presbyteries also are bringing forward a number of young men for the Gospel ministry. It is thought, that this subject is assuming a new importance in the minds of Christians, and that we are to have an increased interest respecting it that shall be universally felt.

In regard to revivals of religion, though we may not be able to record as great outpourings of the Holy Spirit as in some other years, yet many churches have been refreshed. Some have enjoyed deep and powerful works of grace. Nearly one hundred revivals of religion have been reported, besides many cases of decided spiritual interest not called revivals. Many precious souls have been gathered into the fold of Christ, showing us that the Lord is with us, and that we have only to sow the seed and water it with our prayers and tears, and He will give the increase.

But while we thus rejoice in our temporal prosperity, in the increased liberality to benevolent objects, and in the number of revivals of religion, we would not disguise it from our minds that there are things to detract from this cheering picture.

Trials and Discouragements.

There are trials and discouragements. We do not notice, however, any that are peculiar or uncommon to the work in which we are engaged. It is a subject of painful regret that the exhortation, "Be not conformed to this world," is so extensively disregarded. The power of consistent Christian example is lost in numerous cases, and the world may rightly ask, "What do ye more than others?" The ordinance of infant baptism is neglected by some. This subject, we think, pastors should more frequently present to their people; and urge upon them the duty and the benefit of recognizing

the Abrahamic covenant. Few young men, compared with the wants of the country and the world, have the Gospel ministry in view. This we regard as one of the most discouraging signs of the times in the midst of us.

Outside of the Church is Romanism, infidelity, philosophic error, profanity, Sabbath-breaking, and intemperance; but over all these, the Gospel is able to triumph in the hands of a faithful ministry and a praying Church.

Decease of Ministers.

In conclusion, we are reminded that the time is short. During the year a number of our most useful and beloved brethren in the ministry have been called away by death. Some of them have been called from the very heights of Zion. Their deeds live after them, and the fragrance of their memory will long remain in the Church. Since the meeting of the last General Assembly the following twenty-four ministers have been called to their reward on high, viz.:

Rev.	Solomon Williams,	of the Presbytery of	Champlain.
"	Silas Churchill,	"	Columbia.
"	Samuel N. Steele,	"	"
"	Seth Burt,	"	Utica.
"	Richard F. Cleveland,	"	"
"	William Clark,	"	Chemung.
"	Roderick L. Hurlbut,	"	Ontario.
"	Francis Danforth,	"	Buffalo.
"	Charles Hall, D. D.,	"	New York, Third.
"	Walter S. F. Graham,	"	Wilmington.
"	Eliphalet W. Gilbert, D. D.,	"	Philadelphia, Fourth.
"	Charles Sharman,	"	Erie.
"	Henry Eastman,	"	Marshall.
"	Henry N. Peck,	"	Kalamazoo.
"	Alanson Saunders,	"	Grand River.
"	Jonathan Bigelow,	"	Cleveland.
"	William A. McCampbell,	"	Indianapolis.
"	Thomas Anderson,	"	Fort Wayne.
"	James Gallaher,	"	St. Louis.
"	David Weir,	"	Osage.
"	Samuel Washburn,	"	District of Columbia.
"	Charles Coffin, D. D.,	"	Holston.
"	George Moore,	"	Clinton.
"	Thomas Magruder,	"	"

By order of the General Assembly.

THOMAS H. SKINNER, *Moderator.*

EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

I. SCHEDULE OF SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	Commiss. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	5	78	2	7	68	245	138	9011	47	93	$120 90	$18 00	$2141 37	$3908 69	$1294 63	$1179 33	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	26	...	...	22	53	42	2611	...	8	.....	.....	515 00	1005 00	.....	.....	David Dobie.
2. Troy	1820	...	24	2	1	17	85	38	2914	18	38	43 40	5 00	466 00	776 25	84 55	349 00	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany	1791	...	8	...	2	11	56	21	1485	22	27	20 00	10 00	63 00	813 34	775 98	.....	Eber M. Rollo.
4. Columbia	1802	...	8	...	1	6	16	12	892	4	9	22 00	.....	251 25	302 60	185 00	215 58	Henry E. Niles.
5. Catskill	1851	...	12	...	3	12	35	25	1109	3	11	35 50	3 00	846 12	1011 50	249 10	614 75	Josiah Leonard.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	4	72	3	11	86	156	206	7951	43	137	87 50	20 63	1320 31	2360 81	664 66	1556 30	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	7	...	1	9	7	11	783	1	12	5 00	1 00	61 38	206 46	21 00	77 00	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	18	...	6	22	43	53	2372	17	55	30 00	2 13	367 49	589 40	125 00	600 15	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego*	1823	...	14	...	...	26	12	21	1517	3	6	.....	.....	178 91	270 00	59 00	198 00	Thomas A. Weed.
4. Utica	1842	...	33	3	7	29	94	121	3279	22	63	52 50	17 50	712 53	1294 95	459 66	681 15	Samuel W. Brace.
III. Synod of Geneva	1812	9	202	13	11	167	686	559	18,719	291	360	274 30	18 00	7393 55	5822 07	4085 91	6475 45	Henry A. Nelson.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	35	2	...	26	111	69	2819	51	33	63 50	12 00	807 15	845 44	323 11	672 60	Seth P. M. Hastings.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	34	8	4	23	72	84	2569	23	59	52 00	4 00	1681 43	845 56	1068 26	827 15	Henry A. Nelson.
3. Geneva	1805	...	48	...	...	29	88	93	4554	39	71	27 10	.....	1739 15	1794 07	1388 41	1892 82	Charles Hawley.
4. Cortland	1825	...	13	...	4	16	35	45	1754	19	35	41 00	.....	558 21	460 54	168 21	524 43	Hercules R. Dunham.
5. Tioga	1829	...	12	...	...	11	15	18	1477	...	27	.....	2 00	658 12	616 22	259 07	476 14	Peter Lockwood.
6. Bath	1817	...	13	...	1	18	57	70	1558	28	32	9 00	.....	313 96	192 28	257 81	313 37	B. Coleman Smith.
7. Chemung	1836	...	25	...	...	20	166	113	1874	72	50	25 00	.....	533 97	601 27	422 08	491 97	Charles C. Carr.
8. Ithaca	1839	...	12	3	2	11	88	53	1606	33	32	45 70	.....	952 06	394 13	198 86	1276 97	William N. McHarg.
9. Pennsylvania	1845	...	10	...	...	13	54	14	508	26	21	11 00	.....	149 50	72 56	.....	.....	Elijah D. Wells.
IV. S. of Susquehanna	1853	3	44	2	2	55	190	84	4663	73	84	60 00	3 50	1380 04	1187 90	192 88	565 21	David Torrey.
1. Otsego	1820	...	16	...	2	19	100	31	1638	43	26	23 00	3 50	1047 47	810 96	155 41	447 99	Josiah A. Priest.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

2. Chenango	1826	...	11	1	...	18	47	33	1682	15	39	30 00	.....	152 40	.....	.....	.....	Henry Callahan.
3. Delaware	1831	...	17	1	...	18	43	20	1343	15	19	7 00	.....	180 17	376 94	37 47	117 22	Isaac D. Cornwell.
V. Synod of Genesee	1821	6	118	8	9	126	711	494	14,848	222	256	230 96	36 00	5607 94	6280 09	2420 51	5264 25	Timothy Stillman.
1. Genesee	1819	...	16	...	...	15	114	47	1662	34	25	34 00	1 00	501 50	515 00	278 00	489 00	Charles N. Mattoon.
2. Ontario	1817	...	14	1	...	15	54	47	1566	9	27	7 25	.....	201 60	134 00	144 25	78 00	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester	1819	...	21	2	4	19	186	79	3237	79	19	.....	.....	1019 42	2997 79	326 00	.....	Jonathan Copeland.
4. Niagara	1817	...	14	1	...	16	107	81	2463	17	44	53 71	10 00	944 37	622 04	87 00	2712 14	Charles E. Furman.
5. Buffalo	1823	...	41	2	5	42	178	185	4387	49	99	133 00	25 00	2563 58	1974 26	1526 62	1912 00	Timothy Stillman.
6. Angelica	1828	...	12	2	...	19	72	55	1533	34	42	3 00	.....	377 47	37 00	58 64	73 11	Samuel A. Rawson.
VI. S. of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	10	212	30	43	149	827	954	22,797	200	543	360 11	234 12	42,979 10	15,226 69	57,562 34	4235 57	John N. Lewis.
1. Hudson	1797	...	16	...	4	13	47	49	1836	26	43	55 00	10 05	437 00	369 25	120 00	417 00	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	17	...	...	15	22	30	1651	6	24	18 50	15 00	594 85	328 84	254 25	491 00	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	11	...	...	6	8	7	555	4	13	22 25	3 59	119 18	168 36	45 00	70 69	Henry Clark.
4. New York, 3d	1831	...	39	15	24	21	209	294	5204	44	157	98 14	98 15	30,387 16	10,180 33	55,829 09	2632 01	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, 4th	1845	...	28	10	7	11	85	189	2171	10	69	51 43	10 00	3239 04	1809 54	472 50	219 87	Thomas H. Skinner, Jr.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	17	...	...	8	65	128	2439	16	60	45 00	42 21	5635 00	.....	.....	.....	James W. McLane, D.D.
7. Newark	1824	...	33	3	1	20	148	164	3743	20	87	47 29	33 06	1202 62	1234 75	394 00	60 00	Ebenezer Seymour.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	19	1	...	18	161	29	2669	63	27	17 50	22 06	557 88	516 00	447 50	345 00	Joel Campbell.
9. Montrose	1832	...	22	...	7	30	82	64	2374	11	63	5 00	.....	806 37	619 62	.....	.....	Adam Miller.
10. San Francisco	1849	...	10	1	...	7	...	...	155	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel H. Willey.
VII. S. of Pennsylvania.	1838	4	80	5	14	69	374	315	10,152	92	411	294 64	115 72	10,033 19	3112 15	2480 44	1542 97	John McKnight.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	14	...	...	19	46	23	1260	9	42	4 57	1 00	765 53	427 75	344 19	75 00	Abraham D. Pollock.
2. Philadelphia, 3d.	1822	...	28	1	1	20	148	69	2867	43	182	52 00	16 65	1411 06	416 90	468 00	191 25	John McKnight.
3. Philadelphia, 4th	1845	...	29	4	8	21	152	207	4919	35	151	186 07	94 41	5323 35	1642 50	1358 25	932 72	Charles Brown.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	9	...	5	9	28	16	1106	5	36	52 00	3 66	2533 25	625 00	310 00	344 00	Conway P. Wing.
VIII. S. of West Penna.	1843	3	20	2	2	36	158	70	2640	52	123	93 57	6 48	862 25	1078 50	153 75	973 93	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	9	2	1	15	71	24	1090	30	33	48 60	2 08	328 25	196 50	.....	189 43	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	7	...	1	15	56	33	886	14	70	19 97	2 40	168 00	65 00	73 75	40 00	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	4	...	...	6	31	13	664	8	20	25 00	2 00	366 00	817 00	80 00	744 50	Samuel M. Sparks.
IX. Synod of Michigan	1834	6	87	4	6	116	236	278	7555	67	180	120 66	37 75	2111 13	2095 28	368 10	1453 19	Chauncy Osborn.
1. Detroit	1826	...	23	...	...	33	48	37	2210	5	18	1 50	13 50	250 90	374 08	83 00	75 14	Robert R. Kellogg.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	12	1	...	25	37	51	1264	12	47	38 00	2 50	278 00	269 38	31 25	.....	Norman Kellogg.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	Commiss. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
3. Monroe	1833	...	11	...	...	13	43	58	1179	19	32	$23 00	$6 00	$231 68	$396 97	$51 40	$332 85	John Monteith.
4. Marshall	1838	...	17	...	1	21	27	57	1407	9	34	26 00	5 00	729 52	356 24	160 85	440 03	S. Dwight Pitkin.
5. Washtenaw	1838	...	14	2	5	14	38	51	1052	7	29	25 41	7 75	351 08	362 02	41 60	271 59	William S. Curtis.
6. Kalamazoo	1838	...	10	1	...	10	43	24	443	15	20	6 75	3 00	269 95	336 59	.....	333 58	Milton Bradley.
X. S. of W. Reserve	1825	8	129	9	9	112	286	226	6886	87	175	122 78	3 61	5516 58	2827 61	225 87	2417 04	William Hanford.
1. Grand River	1814	...	14	...	3	12	41	11	881	24	9	10 00	.....	204 53	163 16	25 00	168 52	Ebenezer Bushnell.
2. Portage	1818	...	29	5	4	14	81	26	1166	21	33	15 00	.....	840 75	701 29	124 22	623 40	William Hanford.
3. Huron	1823	...	18	1	...	18	35	50	1174	11	24	28 26	.....	427 15	408 65	.....	690 12	Alfred Newton.
4. Trumbull	1827	...	13	...	1	12	42	23	1125	5	25	21 02	.....	652 63	487 83	.....	241 86	Xenophon Betts.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	25	3	1	15	14	54	1126	3	31	27 50	3 61	2768 07	642 63	.....	438 88	James Shaw.
6. Medina*	1836	...	6	...	...	9	...	...	300	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Frederick H. Brown.
7. Elyria	1842	...	15	...	...	13	25	17	521	8	13	2 50	.....	108 45	234 17	42 65	.....	Alfred H. Betts.
8. Maumee	1842	...	9	...	...	19	48	45	593	15	40	18 50	.....	515 00	189 88	24 00	254 26	James H. Newton.
XI. Synod of Ohio	1814	4	56	6	3	78	338	242	4411	107	218	182 87	23 42	1955 27	1804 82	789 73	1073 44	Add. Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens	1822	...	10	2	...	18	21	21	645	3	28	54 00	.....	341 25	114 00	178 50	61 00	James S. Walton.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	18	1	...	26	121	66	1877	41	56	32 40	10 22	682 49	932 41	237 33	650 79	Alexander Duncan.
3. Franklin	1835	...	18	2	3	23	119	88	1195	38	65	60 47	7 20	597 98	373 10	100 00	152 85	Henry Shedd.
4. Scioto	1845	...	10	1	...	11	77	67	694	25	69	36 00	6 00	333 55	385 31	273 90	208 80	Joseph Chester.
XII. S. of Cincinnati	1829	3	47	14	3	37	178	126	2975	59	109	219 54	16 00	5237 35	4243 31	12,430 00	273 00	
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	27	12	2	14	81	66	1539	21	52	160 69	15 00	4563 50	3442 00	12,196 00	223 00	D. Howe Allen, D. D.
2. Dayton	1838	...	9	1	...	11	43	25	768	8	45	16 00	1 00	458 25	558 06	208 00	50 00	Daniel Rice.
3. Hamilton	1846	...	11	1	1	12	54	35	668	30	12	42 85	.....	215 60	243 25	26 00	.....	Daniel Tenney.
XIII. S. of Indiana	1826	4	44	1	2	66	163	199	3229	48	128	130 25	25 65	2275 00	859 26	114 00	397 60	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem	1823	...	12	...	2	19	66	96	969	25	31	86 80	10 15	574 42	320 40	.....	275 00	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	13	...	...	17	49	30	982	13	51	43 50	7 00	471 00	231 53	114 00	67 00	Hiram Wason.

3. Indianapolis	1830	...	11	...	...	18	34	48	750	9	18	.....	4 50	1076 50	32 00	.....	54 60	George M. Maxwell.
4. Greencastle	1850	...	8	1	...	12	14	25	528	1	28	.....	4 00	153 08	275 33	.....	1 00	William M. Cheever.
XIV. S. of Wabash	1851	4	28	...	3	49	89	112	1949	17	50	119 80	4 00	505 57	271 10	51 00	176 50	Amzi W. Freeman.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	15	...	1	13	23	60	502	5	8	29 80	.....	119 00	76 00	.....	88 00	William A. McCorkle.
2. Logansport	1835	...	5	...	...	18	44	42	955	6	14	35 00	.....	206 10	133 10	.....	21 00	Francis S. McCabe.
3. Fort Wayne	1845	...	5	...	2	12	9	7	279	5	10	40 00	3 00	119 47	42 00	51 00	62 50	Philander Anderson.
4. Elkhart	1852	...	3	...	...	6	13	3	213	1	18	15 00	1 00	61 00	20 00	.....	5 00	Nathan L. Lord.
XV. Synod of Illinois	1831	4	61	3	3	75	249	192	3868	67	146	171 05	11 15	1963 40	913 70	7329 00	353 95	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois	1828	...	20	...	...	15	77	48	990	29	36	36 10	.....	397 00	508 00	7000 00	.....	Livingston M. Glover.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	13	...	...	17	77	28	1168	16	39	50 00	1 75	196 00	81 00	135 00	100 00	Henry C. Abernethy.
3. Wabash	1823	...	7	...	...	9	19	24	194	8	22	26 25	2 40	26 00	29 80	2 50	13 00	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	21	3	3	34	76	92	1516	14	49	58 70	7 00	1344 40	294 90	191 50	240 95	Augustus T. Norton.
XVI. Synod of Peoria	1843	8	84	1	16	69	110	290	3740	26	165	132 08	19 00	2214 42	2153 01	616 65	2008 13	Robert W. Patterson.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	16	...	...	10	5	21	230	2	2	6 20	.....	41 80	23 00	.....	279 50	Nahum Gould.
2. Peoria and Knox	1836	...	14	...	3	10	18	56	819	7	29	20 33	5 00	430 30	743 25	.....	.....	Joseph Fowler.
3. Galena	1842	...	11	...	5	16	21	32	673	7	39	28 00	2 50	167 00	143 00	25 00	121 00	Shubael Spees.
4. Chicago	1847	...	14	...	8	8	25	90	867	5	51	40 50	10 00	856 42	927 77	254 25	1401 50	Lewis H. Loss.
5. Belvidere	1847	...	12	...	...	6	20	58	556	2	13	13 20	.....	144 06	268 41	166 96	120 61	Charles Fanning.
6. Minnesota*	1850	...	4	...	...	6	...	...	101	...	...	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Edward D. Neill.
7. Milwaukee	1851	...	7	1	...	8	13	17	370	1	21	12 60	.....	536 14	29 41	163 44	73 35	William H. Spencer.
8. Fox River	1851	...	6	...	...	5	8	16	124	2	10	6 25	1 50	38 70	18 17	7 00	12 17	William A. Niles.
XVII. Synod of Iowa	1853	3	18	1	9	26	50	86	743	15	38	45 00	11 30	65 00	113 00	3378 00	122 00	Edmund D. Holt.
1. Des Moines	1845	...	5	...	...	8	10	23	213	3	6	.....	5 75	.....	.....	.....	.....	Thompson Bird.
2. Iowa City	1852	...	6	...	5	10	23	34	217	6	7	26 00	1 25	30 00	23 00	18 50	51 00	John D. Strong.
3. Keokuk	1852	...	7	1	4	8	17	29	313	6	25	19 00	4 30	35 00	90 00	3359 50	71 00	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
XVIII. S. of Missouri	1832	4	38	2	3	56	140	136	2122	27	137	87 85	23 00	1657 00	789 58	1048 25	332 00	John Leighton.
1. St. Louis	1831	...	10	...	3	12	19	32	708	2	48	12 55	16 00	1370 90	673 88	968 25	30 00	Edmund Wright.
2. Northern Missouri	1845	...	7	...	...	11	19	33	598	6	16	23 50	2 00	46 00	60 00	.....	151 00	John Leighton.
3. Lexington	1845	...	12	2	...	15	89	36	453	19	49	20 10	.....	113 80	13 80	75 00	143 00	Tapping S. Reeve.
4. Osage	1845	...	9	...	...	18	13	35	363	...	24	31 70	5 00	126 30	41 90	5 00	8 00	Joseph V. Barks.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Pre-byteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	Commiss. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
XIX. S. of Virginia.....	1788	3	43	5	8	47	209	171	3853	52	185	$204 92	$15 00	$2753 46	$1826 29	$331 34	$1752 25	Thomas D. Bell.
1. Winchester.....	1794	...	11	3	7	10	56	14	1097	24	46	48 00	5 00	403 02	119 50	180 00	233 75	Patterson Fletcher.
2. Dist. of Columbia..	1831	...	14	2	...	12	101	139	1310	12	88	46 00	.....	334 33	489 00	24 00	200 00	William McLain.
3. Hanover.....	1838	...	18	...	1	16	52	18	1446	16	51	110 92	10 00	2016 11	1217 79	127 34	1318 50	Henry S. Osborn.
XX. S. of Kentucky.....	1802	3	14	...	3	25	50	8	1090	29	29	137 00	11 60	421 50	75 00	70 00	295 00	Archer C. Dickerson.
1. Harmony.....	1842	...	7	...	3	10	17	6	436	7	11	47 00	5 00	215 00	20 00	25 00	157 00	Fineelius R. Gray.
2. Providence.....	1842	...	3	...	...	6	31	2	407	21	16	75 00	1 60	83 50	.....	.....	.....	Thomas H. Cleland.
3. Green River.....	1842	...	4	...	...	9	2	...	247	1	2	15 00	5 00	123 00	55 00	45 00	138 00	Archer C. Dickerson.
XXI. S. of Tennessee....	1817	4	47	1	26	80	147	83	4987	55	172	66 91	12 60	526 70	384 79	147 00	280 00	John J. Robinson.
1. Union	1797	...	20	...	15	30	51	51	1988	19	85	15 00	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	Gideon S. White.
2. Holston	1826	...	12	1	7	17	63	22	1599	19	77	41 91	.....	288 70	299 79	125 00	280 00	Ira Morey.
3. Kingston*.....	1838	...	7	...	2	19	...	...	699	...	...	10 00	3 60	.....	.....	.....	.....	William B. Brown.
4. New River.....	1838	...	8	...	2	14	33	10	701	17	10	.....	4 00	238 00	85 00	22 00	.....	George Painter.
XXII. S. of W. Tennessee	1826	3	23	1	2	36	119	43	2192	68	77	274 05	9 40	433 10	140 80	661 11	178 50	William Eagleton, D.D.
1. West Tennessee*....	1810	...	6	...	1	7	...	...	619	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Robert C. Garrison.
2. Shiloh.....	1816	...	7	1	...	14	58	21	883	39	31	110 00	4 40	193 25	96 80	429 76	178 50	Amzi Bradshaw.
3. Richland.....	1824	...	10	...	1	15	61	22	690	29	46	164 05	5 00	239 85	44 00	231 35	.....	Archibald M. Pickens.
XXIII. S. of Mississippi.	1846	3	17	1	...	33	59	43	1096	35	57	250 00	3 35	2202 75	140 00	20 00	90 00	Charles M. Atkinson.
1. Clinton	1822	...	6	1	...	10	8	7	328	9	4	160 00	.....	266 00	.....	.....	.....	Consider Parish.
2. Lexington, South...	1845	...	7	...	...	9	33	19	390	13	35	90 00	.....	910 00	140 00	20 00	90 00	Fisher A. Tyler.
3. Newton	1845	...	4	...	...	14	18	17	378	13	18	.....	3 35	1026 75	.....	.....	.....	James M. Richardson.
4. Texas	1854	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Daniel C. Henderson.

II. SCHEDULE OF SYNODS.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	Commiss. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	78	2	7	68	245	138	9,011	47	93	$120.90	$ 18.00	$2,141.37	$3,908.69	$1,294.63	$1,179.33
2. Utica	1829	4	72	3	14	86	156	206	7,951	43	137	87.50	20.63	1,320.31	2,360.81	664.66	1,556.30
3. Geneva	1812	9	202	13	11	167	686	559	18,719	291	360	274.30	18.00	7,393.55	5.822.07	4,085.91	6,475.45
4. Susquehanna	1853	3	44	2	2	55	190	84	4,663	73	84	60.00	3.50	1,380.04	1,187.90	192.88	565.21
5. Genesee	1821	6	118	8	9	126	711	494	14,848	222	256	230.96	36.00	5,607.94	6,280.09	2,420.51	5.264.25
6. N. York and N. Jersey	1788	10	212	30	43	149	827	954	22,797	200	543	360.11	234.12	42,979.10	15,226.69	57,562.34	4,235.57
7. Pennsylvania	1838	4	80	5	14	69	374	315	10,152	92	411	294.64	115.72	10,033.19	3,112.15	2,480.44	1,542.97
8. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	20	2	2	36	158	70	2,640	52	123	93.57	6.48	862.25	1,078.50	153.75	973.93
9. Michigan	1834	6	87	4	6	116	236	278	7,555	67	180	120.66	37.75	2,111.13	2,095.28	368.10	1,453.19
10. Western Reserve	1825	8	129	9	9	112	286	226	6,886	87	175	122.78	3.61	5,516.58	2.827.61	225.87	2,417.04
11. Ohio	1814	4	56	6	3	78	338	242	4,411	107	218	182.87	23.42	1,955.27	1,804.82	789.73	1,073.44
12. Cincinnati	1829	3	47	14	3	37	178	126	2,975	59	109	219.54	16.00	5,237.35	4,243.31	12,430.00	273.00
13. Indiana	1826	4	44	1	2	66	163	199	3,229	48	128	130.30	25.65	2,275.00	859.26	114.00	397.60
14. Wabash	1851	4	28	...	3	49	89	112	1,949	17	50	119.80	4.00	505.57	271.10	51.00	176.50
15. Illinois	1831	4	61	3	3	75	249	192	3,868	67	146	171.05	11.15	1,963.40	913.70	7,329.00	353.95
16. Peoria	1843	8	84	1	16	69	110	290	3,740	26	165	132.08	19.00	2,214.42	2,153.01	616.65	2,008.13
17. Iowa	1853	3	18	1	9	26	50	86	743	15	38	45.00	11.30	65.00	113.00	3,378.00	122.00
18. Missouri	1832	4	38	2	3	56	140	136	2,122	27	137	87.85	23.00	1,657.00	789.58	1,048.25	332.00
19. Virginia	1788	3	43	5	8	47	209	171	3,853	52	185	204.92	15.00	2,753.46	1,826.29	331.34	1,752.25
20. Kentucky	1802	3	14	...	3	25	50	8	1,090	29	29	137.00	11.60	421.50	75.00	70.00	295.00
21. Tennessee	1817	4	47	1	26	80	147	83	4,987	55	172	66.91	12.60	526.70	384.79	147.00	280.00
22. West Tennessee	1826	3	23	1	2	36	119	43	2,192	68	77	274.65	9.40	433.10	140.80	661.11	178.50
23. Mississippi	1846	3	17	1	...	33	59	43	1,096	35	57	250.00	3.35	2,202.75	140.00	20.00	90.00
		108	1562	114	198	1661	5770	5055	141,477	1779	3873	$3786.79	$679.28	$101,555.98	$57,614.45	$96,435.17	$32,995.61

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The preceding tables show that Statistical Reports, for the year ending in April, 1854, have been received from all but five of the Presbyteries: Oswego, Medina, Minnesota, Kingston, and West Tennessee. An imperfect report has since been received from the Presbytery of Oswego, the totals of which appear in the schedule, p. 638. The following names of ministers are to be added to the Roll of that Presbytery:—W. W. Warner, New Haven, N. Y.; Henry H. Morgan, Hannibal, N. Y.; Lewis Kellogg, Oswego, N. Y.; and Stephen D. Voorhees, Phœnix, N. Y.

In a few instances, the name of a minister is given twice, having been reported by two different Presbyteries; owing to the fact, that, in a few cases, the reports date as far back as June, 1853, and in several others are brought down not later than January or February, 1854; while the greater part, as is proper, are brought down to last April. It is much to be desired that a greater uniformity be obtained in this respect. In each of the Presbyteries of Medina, Athens, and Fort Wayne, the name of a minister appears in about one-half of the edition, which, owing to the above cause, is repeated on a subsequent page, the repetition not having been discovered until the form had gone to press.

No change has been made in the number or arrangement of the Presbyteries and Synods during the past year. The preceding page gives the following results:

Synods	23	Same as last year.	
Presbyteries	108	" " "	
Ministers	1,562	Decrease	8
Licentiates	114	Decrease	16
Candidates	198	Decrease	1
Churches	1,661	Increase	35
Additions, on Examination	5,770	Decrease	404
" " Certificate	5,055	Increase	295
Whole No. of Communicants	141,477	Increase	1,025
Baptisms of Adults	1,779	Increase	64
" " Infants	3,873	Decrease	159

CONTRIBUTIONS.

Commissioners' Fund	$3,786 79	Increase	$477 21
Contingent Fund	679 28	Decrease	1 54
Domestic Missions	101,555 98	Increase	39,497 60
Foreign Missions	57,614 45	Increase	4,471 20
Education	96,435 17	Increase	67,512 29
Publication	32,995 61	Decrease	1,539 78
Total of Contributions,	$293,067 28	Increase	$110,416 98

The report of the number of Candidates for the Ministry is quite imperfect. In many cases, only those who have been regularly received under the care

of the Presbytery have been reported. It is expected that every church will report annually to its Presbytery the number of its members who are pursuing a course of preparatory study for the ministry, in whatever stage of preparation they may be; and that every Presbytery report annually to the General Assembly, the whole number of persons connected with the churches under their care who are thus preparing for the ministry. It is probable that scarcely more than one half of this number has been reported to the Assembly for the past year.

A large number of churches, and some whole Presbyteries, have failed to report the amount of their contributions to benevolent objects. The contributions to the Church Erection Fund are classed, except in a few instances, under the head of Domestic Missions; but in many cases have been enumerated, not in the Statistical Report, but in the Church Extension Report, and therefore do not appear in this summary. As nearly $80,000 have been contributed to this Fund, and not less than $60,000, judging from the reports of last year, to Domestic Missions, the total under this head should be about $140,000. The principal contributions to the Education cause have been from the two Synods of New York and New Jersey, and of Cincinnati, for the endowment of the two Theological Seminaries within their bounds.

From 77 Presbyteries no reports have been received of their ecclesiastical acts during the year:—their Licensures; Ordinations; Installations; Dissolutions of the Pastorate, and of Churches; Depositions; Dismission of Ministers and Licentiates to, and Reception from, other Denominations; Organization, Reception from, and Dismission to, other Denominations, of Churches. It is very desirable that every Presbytery require their Stated Clerk to include these facts in their annual report to the Assembly. Owing to the failure of so many Presbyteries in this matter, no general summary of these acts can be given in this Appendix.

All which is respectfully submitted.

EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

New York, July 6th, 1854.

MINUTES, 1855.

Saint Louis, Missouri, May 17th, 1855.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, at the city of St. Louis, on Thursday, the 17th day of May, A. D. 1855, at 11 o'clock A. M., in the Union Presbyterian church—substituted by the Committee of Arrangements in the place of the First Presbyterian church, the building of which had not been completed—and was opened with a sermon by Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from 1 John 2 : 7, 8: "Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. * * * * Again, a new commandment I write unto you."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Permanent Clerk presented the report of the Committee on Commissions; and the following persons were thereupon enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners to this General Assembly: [4]

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain.*		
2. *Troy*,	A. B. Lambert, D. D.	
3. *Albany.*		
4. *Columbia*,	Wm. S. Leavitt (2),	Josiah W. Fairfield (3).
5. *Catskill*,	Sanford W. Roe, M. D.	

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence.*		
2. *Watertown*,		James K. Bates, M. D.
3. *Oswego.*		
4. *Utica*,	Erastus S. Barnes, Jonathan B. Hubbard,	Nic. H. Deering, M. D. (3).

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Onondaga*,	William L. Strong, Albert H. Gaston,	Jared N. Avery, James M. Monroe (2).
2. *Cayuga*,	Norton Crittenden, Edward D. Morris,	Charles Barnes.
3. *Geneva*,	Samuel H. Gridley, John Ward,	Albert F. Cressy.
4. *Cortland*,	Elisha B. Sherwood,	Amos Rice.
5. *Tioga*,		John F. Judd.
6. *Bath*,	S. Mills Day.	
7. *Chemung*,	Robert E. Willson,	W. D. Terbell, M. D. (2).
8. *Ithaca*,	Philos G. Cook,	Joseph Esty.
9. *Pennsylvania*,	Joel Jewell.	

IV. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Otsego*,	William T. Doubleday,	Elias Parshall.
2. *Chenango*,	Samuel W. Bush,	S. Dewitt Beals.
3. *Delaware*.		

V. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Genesee*,	William Lusk,	Hon. Augustus P. Hascall.
2. *Ontario*,	Darwin Chichester.	
3. *Rochester*,	Ralph S. Crampton,	David Dickey.
4. *Niagara*,	Wm. C. Wisner, D. D.,	Eliphalet Gillett (2).
5. *Buffalo*,	Sylvester Cowles,	John R. Lee,
	J. Jermain Porter,	Seth Clark.
6. *Angelica*.		[5]

VI. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Augustus Seward,	Hon. Robert Denniston.
2. *North River*,	George F. Wiswell (2),	L. W. Stanton, M. D. (2).
3. *Long Island*,	Daniel M. Lord (2).	
4. *New York, 3d*,	Thos. H. Skinner, D. D.,	Christopher R. Robert,
	Alf. E. Campbell, D. D.,	Austin Requa.
5. *New York, 4th*,	John Spaulding,	Jesse W. Benedict,
	Henry B. Smith, D. D.,	William P. Cook.
6. *Brooklyn*,	J. W. McLane, D. D. (2),	Hon. E. A. Lambert (2).
7. *Newark*,	James P. Wilson, D. D.,	Calvin Baldwin,
	John Crowell,	William R. Sayre.
8. *Rockaway*,	Daniel E. Megie.	
9. *Montrose*,	Hy. A. Rowland, D. D.,	Richard L. Seely.
10. *San Francisco*,	Sam'l H. Willey (3).	

VII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	James McIntire (2),	John A. Reynolds (2).
2. *Philadelphia, 3d*,	Robert Adair,	Anthony Green.
3. *Philadelphia, 4th*,	Benjamin J. Wallace,	Rob't. W. Davenport (2),
	Thomas J. Shepherd,	J. Marshall Paul, M. D. (3).
4. *Harrisburgh*,	William Sterling (2).	

VIII. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	James H. Rice,	William Townsend.
2. *Meadville*,	John McMaster.	
3. *Pittsburgh*,	James Cochrane,	Thomas J. Campbell.

IX. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	Henry Neill,	Edward C. Walker.
2. *St. Joseph*,	Ashbel S. Wells (2).	
3. *Monroe*,	Jonathan Cochran,	Charles Noble (2).
4. *Marshall*,	S. Dwight Pitkin (2),	William Brooks (2).
5. *Washtenaw*,	Lucius I. Root.	
6. *Kalamazoo*,	Ova Phelps Hoyt.	

X. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Grand River*,	Hiram A. Babcock.	
2. *Portage*,	Carlos Smith.	
3. *Huron*,	Alfred Newton,	John W. Sprague (2).
4. *Trumbull*,		John Loughridge (3).
5. *Cleveland*,	Seth G. Clark,	George Mygatt.
6. *Elyria*,	Hubbard Lawrence.	
7. *Maumee*,	Perry C. Baldwin.	[6]

XI. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Thomas Towler,	Harry McClure.
2. *Pataskala*,	Timothy W. Howe (2),	Hon. Elizur Abbott.
3. *Franklin*,	William H. Marble,	William Porter.
4. *Scioto*,	E. Perkins Pratt.	

XII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	Clement E. Babb,	Robert Boal (2),
	James J. Blaisdell,	Philip Hinckle (2).
2. *Dayton*,	Samuel D. Smith.	
3. *Hamilton*,	Lorenzo Carey,	Alanson Grant.

XIII. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	John G. Atterbury,	Ralph H. Hurlbut.
2. *Madison*,	John C. Bonham.	
3. *Indianapolis*,	Philip S. Cleland,	Thomas B. Noble.
4. *Greencastle*,	Benjamin F. Cole (2).	

XIV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	Samuel S. Thomson.
2. *Logansport*,	Martin M. Post.
3. *Fort Wayne.*	
4. *Elkhart.*	

XV. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	Joseph M. Grout (3),	Samuel Crawford.
2. *Schuyler*,	Reuben K. McCoy,	Clark B. Church.
3. *Wabash*,	Enoch Kingsbury (2),	Andrew McKinney (2).
4. *Alton*,	Augustus T. Norton,	Hon. G. T. Allen, M. D. (3).

XVI. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa*,	Nahum Gould.	
2. *Peoria and Knox*,	V. Leroy Lockwood (2).	
3. *Galena*,	H. H. Hays, D. D. (2),	Charles S. Hempstead.
4. *Chicago*,	Ira M. Weed,	J. Ambrose Wight.
5. *Belvidere*,	Isaac E. Carey.	
6. *Minnesota*,	Edward D. Neill.	
7. *Milwaukee*,	William H. Spencer (3).	
8. *Fox River*,	Cyrus E. Rosenkrans.	

XVII. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	Asa Martin,	William D. Evans.
2. *Iowa City*,	James M. Phillips (2).	
3. *Keokuk*,	Samuel K. Sneed,	Solomon Beckley. [7]

XVIII. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *St. Louis,*	Artemas Bullard, D. D.,	Fred. E. Robinson (2).
2. *North Missouri,*	Allen G. Gallaher,	Robert Williamson.
3. *Lexington,*	Robert Glenn,	Francis W. Digges (3).
4. *Osage.*		

XIX. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester,*	John T. Hargrave (2).	
2. *D. of Columbia,*	William T. Eva (2).	
3. *Hanover,*	Henry S. Osborn (3).	

XX. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

1. *Harmony,*	Fincelius R. Gray.	
2. *Providence,*	Thomas H. Cleland,	Robert A. Armstrong.
3. *Green River.*		

XXI. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union,*	Gideon S. White,	Patten Howell.
2. *Holston,*	Ira Morey,	John Lynn.
3. *Kingston,*	George A. Caldwell.	
4. *New River,*		

XXII. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

1. *West Tennessee.*		
2. *Shiloh,*	Alfred H. Dashiell.	
3. *Richland,*	Robert Caldwell.	

XXIII. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

1. *Clinton,*	Duncan A. Campbell,	John Smith.
2. *Lexington, South.*		
3. *Newton,*	James M. McLean (3).	

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

General Association of Massachusetts,	Rev. Samuel Harris.
General Association of Connecticut.	
General Association of New Hampshire.	
General Association of New York.	
General Conference of Maine.	
General Convention of Vermont,	Rev. Charles C. Parker.
General Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island.	[8]
Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin,	Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey.
General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.	
Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.	
General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.	

The Permanent Clerk also reported the following persons as appearing without Commissions, and that their appointment is sustained by testimony satisfactory to the Committee:

Rev. Seth G. Clark,	of the Presbytery of	Cleveland.
Rev. John G. Atterbury,	"	Salem.
Elder Solomon Beckley,	"	Keokuk.
Elder William Porter,	"	Franklin.

Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the names of the above persons be inserted in the Roll as Commissioners.

The Assembly then adjourned to meet in this place at 3½ o'clock this afternoon.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 17th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioner was reported, and his name was entered upon the Roll:

Elder Ralph H. Hurlbut, from the Presbytery of Salem.

The Assembly proceeded to the election of a Moderator.

Whereupon Rev. William C. Wisner. D. D., of the Presbytery of Niagara, was chosen Moderator, and inducted into office in the usual form.

Rev. Ova Phelps Hoyt, of the Presbytery of Kalamazoo, was chosen Temporary Clerk.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 9 o'clock A. M. to 1 P. M.; and from 3½ o'clock to 6 P. M.; and that the first half hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises under the direction of the Moderator.

The printed Minutes of the last Assembly were distributed among the members. [9]

The docket of business was presented and read by the Stated Clerk.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow, immediately after the calling of the Roll, to receive Synodical Records, Narratives, Statistical Reports, Overtures, memorials, appeals, and complaints.

Ordered, That, in the absence of the Treasurer, all moneys intended for the Commissioners' Fund be paid, on the rising of the Assembly to-morrow morning, to the Committee on Mileage; and all moneys for the Contingent Fund be paid into the hands of the Stated Clerk.

Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., Rev. Ralph S. Crampton, and Elder Joseph Esty, were appointed a *Committee to nominate a preacher* on Home Missions for the next Assembly.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow afternoon, to hear reports from Theological Seminaries.

It was made the first order of the day for Saturday morning, to hear reports from the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, and the second order to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

The election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies was made the order of the day for Monday morning, immediately after the devotional exercises, to be followed by the reception of communications from Corresponding Bodies.

The Assembly recommended the observance of the first Monday of January as a day of fasting and prayer for the Conversion of the World; and also the last Thursday in February, as a day of prayer for Colleges.

It was made the first order of the day for Monday afternoon, to hear the annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House; to be followed by the annual report of the Standing Committee on Doctrinal Tracts.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient for the Assembly to proceed to the election, for the present year, of Trustees of the General Assembly, and Directors of the Theological Seminaries.

The Treasurer's report was received and referred to an *Auditing Committee*, consisting of Mr. Christopher R. Robert and Hon. Augustus P. Hascall.

It was made the order of the day for Tuesday morning next, immediately after the devotional exercises, to hear the annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

The Assembly proceeded to determine the place for the meeting of the next Assembly, and unanimously made choice of the Madison Square Presbyterian church in the city of New York.

It was thereupon *Resolved*, That the next General Assembly meet in the Madison Square Presbyterian church in the city of New York, on the third Thursday of May, 1856, at 11 o'clock A. M.; and that Rev. William Adams, D. D., Joel Parker, D. D., George L. Prentiss, D. D., Asa D. Smith, D. D., and the Elders, William A. Booth, Jesse W. Benedict, Hon. John L. Mason, and William P. Cook, be a *Committee of Arrangements* for the occasion. [10]

A bill of error from John A. Gray, printer of the General Assembly, was presented by the Stated Clerk, and referred to the Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's report.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 18th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

After which, the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioners and Delegates were reported, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Rev. John T. Hargrave,	from the Presbytery of	Winchester.
Elder Charles Noble,	"	Monroe.
" William D. Terbell, M. D.,	"	Chemung.
Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D.,	"	New York, 4th.
" Ashbel S. Wells,	"	St. Joseph.
Elder James M. Monroe,	"	Onondaga.
Rev. S. Dwight Pitkin,	"	Marshall.
Elder John W. Sprague,	"	Huron.
Rev. V. Leroy Lockwood,	"	Peoria and Knox.
" Timothy W. Howe,	"	Pataskala.
" Hervey H. Hays, D. D.,	"	Galena.
" James M. Phillips,	"	Iowa City.
Elder John A. Reynolds,	"	Wilmington.
Rev. Benjamin F. Cole,	"	Greencastle.
Elder Frederick E. Robinson,	"	St. Louis.
" Andrew McKinney,	"	Wabash.
Rev. Enoch Kingsbury,	"	"

Elder Robert Davenport, from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, 4th.
Elder Hon. Edward A. Lambert, " Brooklyn.
Rev. James McIntire, " Wilmington.
" William T. Eva, " Dist. of Columbia.
" William Sterling, " Harrisburgh.
" Geo. F. Wiswell, " North River.
Elder Luke W. Stanton, M. D., " "
" Eliphalet Gillett, " Niagara.
" Philip Hinckle, " Cincinnati.
" Robert Boal, " "

Rev. Samuel Harris, from the General Association of Massachusetts.

Rev. Charles C. Parker, from the General Convention of Vermont.

Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin. [11]

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., William Lusk, Robert Adair, and Gideon S. White. *Elders*—Hon. Robert Denniston, Richard L. Seely, and Charles S. Hempstead.

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—James P. Wilson, D. D., Samuel H. Gridley, Henry Neill, Martin M. Post. and John T. Hargrave. *Elders*—Hon. Augustus P. Hascall, George Mygatt, and John Smith.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Henry A. Rowland, D. D., Alfred E. Campbell, D. D.. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., and Augustus T. Norton. *Elders*—David Dickey, Thomas J. Campbell, and Henry McClure.

4. *Church Extension. Ministers.*—Artemas Bullard, D. D., James W. McLane, D. D.. Benjamin J. Wallace, and Samuel S. Thomson. *Elders*—Christopher R. Robert, John R. Lee, and J. Ambrose Wight.

5. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—John Spaulding, Edward D. Neill, Philos G. Cook, and Alfred H. Dashiell. *Elders*—Austin Requa, Anthony Green, and Ralph H. Hurlbut.

6. *Narrative. Ministers*—J. Jermain Porter, Alfred Newton, John G. Atterbury, and Fincelius R. Gray. *Elders*—James K. Bates, M. D., Joseph Esty, and William P. Cook.

7. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—Ralph S. Crampton, Ira M. Weed, James J. Blaisdell, and Ira Morey. *Elders*—Solomon Beckley, Hon. Elizur Abbott, and Jared N. Avery.

8. *Mileage. Elders*—Jesse W. Benedict, Calvin Baldwin, and Albert F. Cressy.

The Moderator also announced the following Committees on Synodical Records: namely, on the Records of the Synod of

1. *Albany. Ministers*—Albert H. Gaston and Jonathan B. Hubbard. *Elder*—William R. Sayer.

2. *Utica. Ministers*—Robert E. Willson and William T. Doubleday. *Elder*—William Townsend.

3. *Geneva. Ministers*—Sanford W. Roe, M. D., and John McMaster. *Elder*—Elias Parshall.

4. *Susquehanna. Ministers*—Thomas J. Shepherd and John Ward. *Elder* Charles Barnes. [12]

5. *Genesee. Ministers*—William L. Strong and Augustus Seward. *Elder*—Edward C. Walker.

6. *New York and New Jersey. Ministers*—Darwin Chichester and I. Norton Crittenden. *Elder*—John F. Judd.

7. *Pennsylvania. Ministers*—John Crowell and Erastus S. Barnes. *Elder*—S. Dewitt Beals.

8. *West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Elisha B. Sherwood and Sylvester Cowles. *Elder*—Amos Rice.

9. *Michigan.* *Ministers*—Samuel W. Bush and James H. Rice. *Elder*—William Porter.

10. *Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—E. Perkins Pratt and James Cochrane. *Elder*—Alanson Grant.

11. *Ohio.* *Ministers*—Carlos Smith and Lorenzo Carey. *Elder*—Thos. B. Noble.

12. *Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—Philip S. Cleland and Thos. Towler. *Elder*—Samuel Crawford.

13. *Indiana.* *Ministers*—Lucius I. Root and Jonathan Cochran. *Elder*—Clark B. Church.

14. *Wabash.* *Ministers*—Nahum Gould and Asa Martin. *Elder*—Robert A. Armstrong.

15. *Illinois.* *Ministers*—Seth G. Clark and Robert Caldwell. *Elder*—John Lynn.

16. *Peoria.* *Ministers*—Reuben K. McCoy and Geo. A. Caldwell. *Elder*—Robert Williamson.

17. *Iowa.* *Ministers*—Samuel D. Smith and Duncan A. Campbell. *Elder*—Patten Howell.

18. *Missouri.* *Ministers*—Samuel K. Sneed and Thos. H. Cleland. *Elder*—William D. Evans.

19. *Virginia.* *Ministers*—William H. Marble and Clement E. Babb. *Elder*—Joseph Esty.

20. *Kentucky.* *Ministers*—Hubbard Lawrence and John C. Bonham. *Elder*—William P. Cook.

21. *Tennessee.* *Ministers*—Perry C. Baldwin and Allen G. Gallaher. *Elder*—Ralph H. Hurlbut.

22. *West Tennessee.* *Ministers*—Hiram A. Babcock and S. Mills Day. *Elder*—Jas. K. Bates, M. D.

23. *Mississippi.* *Ministers*—Edward D. Morris and Danel E. Megie. *Elder*—Anthony Green.

The Records of the Synods were called for and put into the hands of the Committees appointed to examine them.

The Narratives, the Statistical Reports, and several Overtures and memorials were received and put into the hands of the Stated Clerk, to be appropriately referred.

The Committee of the last Assembly, "On the memorial with reference to Infirm Ministers," made a report, which was accepted; and, together with a resolution relative to the report, was placed upon the docket.

The Assembly took a recess, to meet at the call of the Moderator. [13]

After the recess, an invitation was received from the ladies of the First Presbyterian church of this city, soliciting the company of the members of the Assembly to tea, in their "Society Rooms," on Wednesday next, at 7 o'clock P. M. The invitation was unanimously accepted.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 18th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners were reported and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Elder William Brooks, from the Presbytery of Marshall.
Rev. William S. Leavitt, " " Columbia.
" Daniel M. Lord, " " Long Island.

Resolved, That the name of the Doctrinal Tract Committee of the General Assembly, be changed to "The Presbyterian Publication Committee."

An invitation was received from Rev. William Homes and others, to make an excursion to-morrow over the Pacific Railroad to the Missouri River.

The invitation of these gentlemen was accepted, and the thanks of the Assembly were returned to them.

The orders of the day for to-morrow were deferred until Monday morning, and those of Monday to the day following.

The Assembly heard reports and statements concerning our Theological Seminaries: from the Union Theological Seminary, through Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D.; from Lane Theological Seminary, through Rev. Thornton A. Mills; from Auburn Theological Seminary, through the Moderator; and from Marysville Theological Seminary, through Rev. Gideon S. White.

A Committee, consisting of Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., Rev Benjamin J. Wallace, and Hon. Augustus P. Hascall, was appointed to prepare a suitable minute upon this subject.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for the various pulpits in the city and vicinity, on the ensuing Sabbath; and also public services for the ensuing week.

The Auditing Committee reported, that they had examined the accounts of the Treasurer, with the accompanying vouchers, and found them correct; also, that they had examined the bill of error presented to the Assembly by John A. Gray, and recommended that it be paid. The report was adopted.

It was made the first order of the afternoon session of Monday next to hear the reports of the Committees on Synodical Records. [14]

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported that Overtures have been before them from the Synod of Iowa, and from the Presbyteries of Chicago, Philadelphia, 3d, and Philadelphia, 4th, requesting that something be done by the Assembly to provide for the wants of the Church as yet unmet by the agencies of the American Home Missionary Society. The Overtures particularly direct the attention of the Assembly to the fact that no provision exists to furnish means for exploring destitute counties and districts, to supply needy churches in cities, or to seek out members of the Church in remote settlements. The Committee recommend that the subject be referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension to report immediately. The report was adopted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures further reported Overtures from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, 4th, and from the Synod of Missouri on the subject of Church Psalmody, desiring that some action be taken by the Assembly to secure greater uniformity in the use of the psalms and hymns in public worship; and recommended that, in view of the resolution of the Assembly of 1846, recommending the adoption of the "Church Psalmist," no action be taken in the premises. After some discussion, the subject was referred to a special *Committee*, consisting of Artemas Bullard, D. D., A. E. Campbell, D. D., James W. McLane, D. D., Rev. B. J. Wallace, and James P. Wilson, D. D., to report during the sessions of the present Assembly.

Adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 21st, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were placed on the Roll, viz.:

Rev. Henry S. Osborn,	from the Presbytery of	Hanover.
Elder J. Marshall Paul, M. D.,	"	Philadelphia, 4th.
Elder Francis W. Digges,	"	Lexington.
Elder Nichol H. Dering, M. D.,	"	Utica.
Elder Josiah W. Fairfield,	"	Columbia.
Rev. Samuel H. Willey,	"	San Francisco.
Rev. James M. McLean,	"	Newton.
Elder John Loughridge,	"	Trumbull.
Rev. Joseph M. Grout,	"	Illinois.
Elder Hon. Geo. T. Allen, M. D.,	"	Alton.
Rev. William H. Spencer,	"	Milwaukee.

An invitation was received from Messrs. John Sigerson & Brother to visit their grounds in the vicinity of this city, on Thursday after[15]noon next. The Assembly voted that thanks be returned to Messrs. John Sigerson & Brother for their kindness, but that the invitation be declined.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day. Reports were received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies, viz.: from Rev. J. W. McLane, D. D., Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; from Rev. Edward Taylor, Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; from Rev. Bela Fancher, Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont; from Rev. Samuel D. Burchard, D. D., Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin; and from Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Delegate to the Union of the Evangelical Churches of France.

The reports were accepted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Nominations were made of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

A communication was received from Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., informing the Assembly of the inability, both of himself and his alternate, Rev. R. W. Patterson, to preach, as appointed by the last Assembly, on Home Missions.

A communication was also received from the dean of the St. Louis Medical College, respectfully inviting the Assembly to visit in a body, or individually, that institution.

The invitation was accepted.

The Committee of the last Assembly on the publication of a new Digest reported progress, and asked to be continued. Their request was granted.

The Standing Committee on Education for the Gospel Ministry made their annual report.

The report was accepted, and referred to a *Special Committee of five*, consisting of Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., Rev. Gideon S. White, Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, J. Marshall Paul, M. D., and Mr. Josiah W. Fairfield.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 21st, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly, agreeably to previous order, proceeded to hear the reports

of the Committees on the Synodical Records; and, on the recommendation of the respective Committees, the Records of the following Synods were approved as far as written: Albany, Utica, Geneva, Genesee, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Michigan, Ohio, Cincinnati, Peoria, Iowa, Missouri, Virginia, West Tennessee, and Mississippi.

The Records of the Synod of Western Reserve were approved, with the following exception: [16]

On page 154, it is said: "Overtures No. 1 and 4 were taken up and acted upon," without stating what the Overtures were, either in full or in substance.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Tennessee reported, that after a careful examination of said Records, they find them correct; and, the attention of the Committee having been called to the report of a Committee of the Synod of Tennessee, relating to the constitutionality of a called meeting of said Synod, convened in accordance with a declaratory resolution of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, in 1796, and found on page 321 of the Digest published in 1820, after a careful examination of the whole subject, they recommend the following action in the case: That, in the judgment of this General Assembly, the meeting of the Synod of Tennessee, at Knoxville in said State, on the 9th day of November, was in accordance with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church, and the Assembly do so declare. The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, to whom was referred the Overtures on the subject of Home Missions, made a report, which was accepted, and ordered to be printed.

The Assembly voted to take up the order of the day for to-morrow morning; when the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund made their report, which was accepted, and referred to a special Committee, consisting of Rev. A. E. Campbell, D. D., A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., Rev. Augustus T. Norton, Rev. Samuel H. Gridley, Rev. William Sterling, Rev. A. H. Dashiell, Hon. E. A. Lambert, Robert Boal, George Mygatt, and Hon. Augustus P. Hascall.

The Judicial Committee reported that they have received a paper, purporting to be a memorial from the session of the Presbyterian church in Iowa City, relating to the case of Rev. W. W. Woods, which was acted upon and decided by the Synod of Iowa; and, having considered the same, they are unanimously of the opinion that the case cannot be regularly brought before the Assembly; because

(1.) This memorial is, in fact, a complaint against the decision of the Synod of Iowa; and it does not appear that any notice of intention to complain to the Assembly was given to the Synod by the complainants.

(2.) No evidence has been presented by the complainants of the injustice of the decision of the Synod.

The Committee therefore recommend that the paper be returned to the complainants. The report was adopted; and, no other business having been presented to the Judicial Committee, they were discharged.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a memorial on the translation and publication, in the German language, of the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church, and its Book of Psalmody; and recommended that it be referred to the Publication Committee.

The report was adopted.

A copy of a pamphlet, entitled, "Thoughts on the City of St. Louis," was presented to each member of the Assembly by the pub[17]lisher, Mr. George Knapp, and the thanks of the Assembly were returned to him.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave had been given to Elder Amos Rice, of the Presbytery of Cortland.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 22d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the calling of the Roll was dispensed with for the remaining sessions.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the first order of the day, viz., the election of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, which was referred to a Canvassing Committee.

The Stated Clerk was instructed to communicate with the Synod of the Free Church of Scotland, in Canada, with reference to opening a correspondence between that body and this General Assembly.

The Committee to whom was referred the framing of a minute on the Theological Seminaries, reported as follows:

The Presbyterian Church has ever taken a deep interest in the training of her sons for the sacred ministry. To this she has looked, as one great source of her influence and power for good among men. The General Assembly, therefore, has heard with great pleasure the evidence, presented at its present sessions, of the increasing prosperity and usefulness of its Theological Seminaries. It is matter of joy and of devout thanksgiving to God, that in these schools of the prophets the heart is cared for as well as the head; that, in the instructions there given, the religious element is developed along with the intellectual; and that the mind is turned off from speculations vainly curious, is kept near the Cross, and brought into sympathy with the wants of a perishing world. The Assembly regards it as a token for good, that among the students in these Seminaries the spirit of self-denial, the willingness to consecrate themselves to the missionary work, exists to so great a degree as it does; and that so large a number of them, from year to year, devote themselves to the work of preaching the Gospel to the heathen, or with equal readiness give their energies to the cause of home evangelization, of converting the wilderness into a fruitful field, and of making the solitary places glad. The Church has much to hope for from this increasing spirit of self-denial in her sons and daughters—from this willingness to endure hardships for Christ's sake. The Assembly regards with peculiar interest the mode of training introduced to a considerable extent in some of these Seminaries, and capable of much greater application in all, which unites the practical with the theoretical, and thus gives activity and life to every lesson, and increased meaning and importance to every precept. Great good must result from combining with studies and research that species of [18] preparation for the ministry which consists in instructing in Sabbath-schools and Bible-classes, in engaging in tract-distribution, and in teaching from house to house. Most heartily, therefore, does the General Assembly commend these Seminaries to the confidence and support of the churches, as the fountains which are to send forth the streams that gladden the earth. They should be put in a strong position, and have all healthful influences thrown around them. And the time of the students should not be taxed, as it now is in many cases, for their individual support, but be free from all such encumbrance, and devoted to study, to prayer, and to personal effort in the work of doing good. Any necessity of this kind which is laid upon students during their seminary-life, any tax upon their time and

energies of this character, tendeth to poverty. The churches, in permitting this necessity to exist, are in reality robbing themselves, are taking from their future pastors that which would increasingly enrich the intellect and the heart of the people to whom they are to minister in holy things.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly proceeded to hear the Delegates from Corresponding Bodies, in such communications as they desired to present; when Rev. Samuel Harris, from the General Association of Massachusetts; Rev. Charles C. Parker, from the General Convention of Vermont; and Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, made statements in reference to the state of religion within their respective bounds.

Communications from Rev. R. S. Storrs, Jr., D. D., Delegate from the General Association of New York to this Assembly; from Rev. Samuel M. Gould, Delegate from the General Conference of Maine; from Rev. A. G. Loomis, Delegate from the General Association of Connecticut; and from Rev. H. A. Bomberger, D. D., Delegate from the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, were received and read.

The communication from the Delegate of the General Association of New York was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Rev. A. E. Campbell, D. D., Rev. Henry Neill, and Christopher R. Robert.

The Committee to nominate a preacher on Home Missions for the next year, recommended Rev. Robert W. Patterson, of the Presbytery of Chicago, principal, and Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock, of the Presbytery of Buffalo, alternate, and their recommendation was adopted.

The Assembly voted to take up the order of the day for this afternoon, when the Trustees of the Presbyterian House and the Publication Committee made their annual reports. Before the completion of the reading of the latter report, the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer. [19]

Tuesday, May 22d, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The reading of the report of the Publication Committee was completed; and, together with the report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, was referred to a *Special Committee*, consisting of Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., Rev. Edward D. Neill, Rev. Wm. Sterling, Rev. Wm. Lusk, Rev. M. M. Post, Hon. E. A. Lambert, N. H. Dering, M. D., and J. Marshall Paul, M. D.

The Canvassing Committee reported that the following persons had been duly elected Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, viz., to the

General Association of Massachusetts—Rev. William W. Newell, principal; and Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., alternate.

General Association of Connecticut—Rev. Joseph C. Stiles, D. D., principal; and Rev. Samuel H. Gridley, alternate.

General Association of New Hampshire—Rev. George F. Wiswell, principal; and Rev. Carlos Smith, alternate.

General Association of New York—Rev. Philos G. Cook, principal; and Rev. James H. Rice, alternate.

General Conference of Maine—Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., principal; and Rev. John Ward, alternate.

General Convention of Vermont—Rev. O. Phelps Hoyt, principal; and Rev. Wm. S. Leavitt, alternate.

General Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island—Rev. Henry Darling, principal; and Rev. William C. Wisner, D. D., alternate.

Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin—Rev. Clement E. Babb, principal; and Rev. Henry Neill, alternate.

Synod of the German Reformed Church—Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, principal; and James P. Wilson, D. D., alternate.

General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church—Rev. Gideon S. White, principal; and Rev. Alexander Newton, D. D., alternate.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to Rev. H. B. Smith, D. D., for his address, in behalf of the Presbyterian Historical Society, on the characteristics of the Reformed or Calvinistic Churches, delivered in this house last evening, and that a copy be requested for publication under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been given to Rev. J. M. Phillips and Rev. S. H. Gridley; Elders, J. W. Sprague, E. Parshall, A. Requa, and J. W. Fairfield.

The Assembly, having learned that the Clerical Commissioner, from the Presbytery of Ithaca, was, on his way to the Assembly, robbed of the money intrusted to him by his Presbytery for the Commissioners' Fund, voted that the Commissioner be allowed to draw his mileage from said Fund, although, for the reason specified, the money contributed by the Presbytery has not been paid into it.

The Committee on Church Extension, to whom were referred the Overtures on Home Missions, presented a report recommending [20] a particular course of action on this subject; the consideration of which occupied the remainder of the session.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 23d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The thanks of the Assembly were returned to the Young Men's Christian Association of St. Louis, and the Medical Faculty of the University of Missouri, for their invitations to visit their respective institutions.

Rev. Samuel Harris, Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, after a short address, to which the Moderator responded, respectfully took his leave.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending that the Assembly celebrate the Lord's Supper in this house, on Thursday next, at 4 o'clock P. M.; that the services be conducted by Rev. William C. Wisner, D. D.; that Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., administer the Bread, assisted by Rev. John T. Hargrave; that Rev. A. T. Norton administer the Cup, assisted by Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd; and that the closing hymn be read and the benediction pronounced by Rev. S. H. Willey. And further, that the distribution of the elements be committed to the following elders, viz.: Hon. A. P. Hascall, Robert W. Davenport, Robert Boal, Robert A. Armstrong, George Mygatt, James K. Bates, M. D., John F. Judd, Frederick E. Robinson, William P. Cook, John Smith, Charles S. Hempstead, and David Dickey. The report was adopted.

The Committee on Mileage presented their report, stating that there have been paid into the hands of the Committee from 34 Presbyteries the sum of

$864.28; and that an apportionment has been made on 43,022 miles of travel in coming to the General Assembly, at the rate of 2.0092 cents for each mile of travel in favor of 47 members, who have applied for their portion of the fund, and each of whose Presbyteries, excepting Ithaca, has contributed thereto.

The report was adopted, and the Committee on Mileage were directed to pay the Commissioners accordingly.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on Church Extension, relative to the Overtures on the subject of Home Missions, when, after full discussion, it was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Church Extension, to whom were referred the Overtures and memorials on the subject of Home Missions, from the Third and Fourth Presbyteries of Philadelphia, the Synod of Iowa, and the Presbyteries of Chicago and Iowa City, respectfully report: [21] That their attention has been especially directed to those cases of Home Missionary effort, which are excluded by the rules of the American Home Missionary Society. Such are, for example, the employment of Synodical, Presbyterial, and generally of exploring or itinerant Presbyterian missionaries, and the planting of Presbyterian churches in advance of all others in towns and neighborhoods, and the founding of churches within the chartered limits of cities and large villages.

The Form of Government of our Church, Chapter XVIII., expressly authorizes the inferior judicatories to apply to the General Assembly for missionary assistance, and in express terms authorizes the Assembly to send missionaries to any part of the Church. The principles of our Presbyterianism, applicable to this subject, are, that the Church is one; that, in accordance with this idea, the stronger parts of the Church must assist the weaker, and that the reservoir into which the surplus shall flow to be equalized and distributed, is the General Assembly. It is obvious that the details of the reception and distribution of funds for this object cannot be arranged by the whole body of the Assembly, but that the Assembly must employ some agency for this purpose; and our opinion is that it is entirely free to choose any agency whatever. Of course it may operate through a voluntary association like the American Home Missionary Society; but your Committee do not conceive that its use of that Society for specific purposes either gives that Society a right to control the whole subject of Church Extension for our denomination, or releases the General Assembly from its own obligation to do so. The older and richer Synods, indeed, do not feel so much the pressure of this necessity, as they are able to afford the needed supplementary aid from their own resources; but it is urged upon us from the more new and destitute portions of our Church, that our interests are grievously suffering, because neither the American Home Missionary Society nor any other agency meets their wants in certain respects, such as those which have been already mentioned; and their appeal in this behalf is made just where the Constitution of our Church directs that it should be made—to the General Assembly itself.

This being obviously, therefore, a case which cannot be reached so effectually by any action of the inferior judicatories, your Committee cannot see how the Assembly can refuse to exercise, in regard to it, that power of "superintendence of the concerns of the whole Church," expressly confided to it by the Constitution. They therefore recommend the following action:

Resolved, 1. That the General Assembly hereby establishes a Standing Committee, to be called "The Church Extension Committee," a majority of whom shall reside in or near the city of Philadelphia. This Committee shall

have no other powers than those conferred by the Assembly; and the functions now assigned to them are those of employing Presbyterial, Synodical, and other Presbyterian itinerant or exploring agents, and affording aid in such exceptional cases as those already mentioned, and also the receiving and disbursing of funds for these objects. [22]

2. That, in recommending this course of action, the General Assembly distinctly declare that it is not their intention thus to establish an Ecclesiastical Board, or to interfere with the proper functions of the American Home Missionary Society, but, as heretofore, they recommend that Society to the confidence and co-operation of the churches under their care.

3. That the Standing Committee on Church Extension, now constituted, shall consist of fifteen members, to be chosen by the Assembly in such manner as the Assembly may direct, and the Committee shall, at its first meeting, divide itself into three equal parts, to serve respectively one, two, and three years, but the same persons shall be re-eligible at the pleasure of the Assembly.

4. Five members of the Committee shall be a quorum; but in order to elect any salaried officer of the Committee, or to increase or diminish the salary of the same, a majority of the Committee shall be necessary to constitute a quorum. The Committee shall have power to fill any vacancies occurring while the Assembly is not in session, and they shall make an annual report to the Assembly of all their proceedings.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 23d, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Resolutions on the subject of Temperance were moved, and ordered to be put upon the docket.

It having been stated to the Assembly, that the question, on the adoption this morning of the report of the Committee on Church Extension relative to Home Missions, was not fairly understood by the house, the vote was unanimously reconsidered, when after considerable discussion the report was again adopted.

The Special Committee on the Report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, made their report, which was accepted.

Rev. B. B. Westbrook addressed the Assembly in behalf of the American Sunday-School Union, after which the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this Assembly highly appreciates the American Sunday-School Union, as an evangelical missionary agency; and, while we heartily rejoice in the continued prosperity of the institution, we most cordially commend it to the favorable regards of all our churches.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported in relation to certain Overtures and memorials that had been before them upon the subject of Slavery. The report was accepted, and its consideration was made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [23]

Thursday, May 24th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual time had been occupied with devotional exercises, the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been given to Elder Hon. C. Noble, Rev. I. W. Rice, Rev. S. W. Bush, Elder Hon. A. P. Hascall, C. R. Robert, T. J. Campbell, R. H. Hurlbut, H. A. Babcock, Rev. J. B. Hubbard, and Elder R. L. Seely.

A *Committee* consisting of Rev. T. H. Skinner, D. D., Rev. R. Adair, and Hon. A. E. Lambert, was appointed *to nominate* "The Church Extension Committee."

Resolved, That the thanks of the General Assembly be presented to the ladies of the First Presbyterian church of this city under the pastoral care of Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., for the very elegant entertainment with which they honored us last evening.

A paper recommending a day of fasting and prayer, on account of the wide-spread immoralities of our land and the consequent divine judgments upon it, was presented by Rev. Samuel K. Sneed, and ordered to be placed upon the docket.

The Assembly entered upon the consideration of the report of the special Committee on the Report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund; and, after discussion, it was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, having had the matters therein contained under consideration, present the following report:

1. The Charter.

The Trustees having, according to the direction of the last General Assembly, obtained from the Legislature of the State of New York an act of incorporation, and having accepted the same, which act they have reported to this General Assembly; therefore:

Resolved, That this General Assembly approve said act of incorporation and the acceptance thereof by the Trustees.

2. Election of Trustees.

The term of service of the following Trustees, Walter S. Griffith, William E. Dodge, and Oliver H. Lee, having expired, the Committee nominate them as suitable persons for re-election for three years, according to the provisions of the plan for the management and distribution of the Fund: and recommend that the election be held on Friday morning immediately after the opening of the Assembly.

3. Transfer of the Fund.

At the close of the last General Assembly, the Board not being incorporated or even organized, the amount of the Fund then collected was properly left in the custody of the Treasurer of the Assembly, but the Board now being fully organized, and having a legal existence, [24] it appears to the Committee desirable and proper, that the custody of the Fund as far as completed should be committed to those who are responsible for its future management, and they therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the closing sentence of the 15th article of the Plan for Distribution be altered to read as follows: "The Treasurer of the General Assembly is hereby directed to transfer the moneys and securities belonging to the Church Erection Fund, in his hands, to the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly's Church Erection Fund, upon the written order of the Board, signed by its President and Secretary."

4. Thanks to the Treasurer.

Resolved, That the thanks of the General Assembly are hereby tendered to Anthony P. Halsey, Esq., its Treasurer, for the accommodating, patient, and faithful attention that he has bestowed on the reception and the management of the Church Erection Fund, while it has been in his hands; and that the Stated Clerk communicate this resolution to Mr. Halsey.

5. Auditing Committee.

Resolved, That the Auditing Committee appointed by the last General Assembly be re-appointed for the coming year.

6. Change of the Plan.

In reply to the memorial of the Presbytery of Kalamazoo, requesting a change in the conditions of the 12th and 14th sections of the Plan of Distribution, the Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That upon a careful examination it will be found, that the Plan contains no conditions or requirements not necessary to the permanence and perpetuity of the Fund; and that essentially to modify or change the conditions of distribution would jeopard its perpetuity.

7. Premature Distribution of the Fund.

In reply to the suggestion of the Presbytery of Ithaca, that the distribution of the Fund should be commenced before the amount originally contemplated is paid in, the Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That good faith towards many of the contributors to the Fund, and a becoming regard to consistency on the part of the Assembly in its reiterated declaration of its purposes and pledges on this subject, alike forbid any distribution till the whole sum is completed.

8. Injunction to the Synods.

Resolved, That the Synods be enjoined to give particular attention to Article XI. of the Plan of Distribution, requiring the appointment of [25] Committees of Church Extension, and the transmission of the names and residences of the members, to the Board of Trustees.

9. Completion of the Fund.

The Trustees having reported a proposed assessment on the several Synods, for the purpose of completing the Fund, as follows:

Albany	$1500	Indiana	$500
Utica	500	Wabash	500
Geneva	1500	Illinois	500
Susquehanna	500	Peoria	500
Genesee	1800	Iowa	100
New York and New Jersey	6000	Missouri	500
Pennsylvania	1100	Virginia	1500
West Pennsylvania	500	Kentucky	200
Michigan	1500	Tennessee	300
Western Reserve	1000	West Tennessee	300
Ohio	500	Mississippi	300
Cincinnati	500		

Resolved, 1. That the General Assembly recommend the several Synods now to assume these assessments.

Resolved, 2. That the members of the several Synods be now called upon to state what amount they have already secured by collections and subscriptions; and also what amount they will individually pledge themselves to raise.

Resolved, 3. That the Trustees be directed to secure the services of such special agency or agencies as they may think best, as soon as they are satisfied that such agency or agencies are necessary to the early completion of the Fund.

Rev. Zephaniah M. Humphrey, Delegate from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, and Rev. Charles C. Parker, Delegate from the General Convention of Vermont, after short addresses, to which the Moderator responded, respectfully took their leave.

Adjourned to meet, in the lecture-room of this church, this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 24th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church made a report which was adopted, and is as follows:

1. The Committee on the Polity of the Church report, that an application has been made, by the Synod of Geneva, for the erection of a new Synod, to be composed of four Presbyteries of the Synod of Geneva; and, as the matter has been amicably arranged by those con[26]cerned, and no objection appears to such a course, they recommend that the Presbyteries of Onondaga, Cayuga, Cortland, and Tioga be erected into a new Synod, to be called the Synod of Onondaga.

They also recommend that the first meeting of the Synod of Onondaga be appointed at Cortlandville, on the second Tuesday of October, 1855, at 7 o'clock P. M.; that Rev. Levi Parsons preach the opening sermon and preside until a Moderator is chosen; or, in case of his absence, that the oldest member present preach and preside.

2. They also report an application from the Presbytery of St. Joseph, to be transferred from the Synod of Michigan to the Synod of Wabash. As this transfer would be convenient for the Presbytery, and has been arranged with the knowledge and consent of the Synod of Michigan, the Committee recommend that the transfer be made as requested.

3. The Committee further report an application, from the Fourth Presbytery of New York, for such a modification of the rules in the Digest, as will facilitate the reception of ministers from foreign bodies, with whom we are upon terms of fraternal correspondence. The Committee can see and appreciate the fact, that in the great changes which have occurred, bringing the ends of the earth near together, instances of seeming hardship may occur; still in their judgment the time has not yet come, when it is wise for this Assembly to introduce the change in our arrangements referred to; and they therefore recommend that no action be taken by the Assembly in the premises.

The Assembly entered upon the consideration of the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, relating to the subject of Slavery.

Pending the discussion of this subject, the Assembly suspended business, and proceeded to the body of the church, where, agreeably to previous ar-

rangements, the ordinance of the Lord's Supper was celebrated, in union with a number of Christian brethren and sisters, who accepted the invitation to participate with them.

The public services in the church having been brought to a close, the Assembly returned to the lecture-room and resumed business: when the special Committee on the report of the Standing Committee on Education for the Gospel Ministry, presented a report, which was accepted and placed upon the docket.

The special Committee, on the report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, and of the Publication Committee, presented a report which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, and of the Publication Committee, have considered the same and report the following preamble and resolutions, for the adoption of the Assembly, namely:

Whereas, the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, by an act approved by the Governor, April 21, 1855, incorporated "The Trustees of the Presbyterian House," in Philadelphia, who are by said act to be elected by this body, therefore [27]

Resolved, by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America: 1. That the said charter be, and the same is hereby, accepted; and that the Trustees, created by said act of incorporation, be directed to perform all the duties required by their appointment.

Resolved, 2. That the said Trustees be directed to give such official notification to the proper authorities of the State of Pennsylvania, as may be necessary, of the acceptance of the charter by the General Assembly.

Resolved, 3. That the Assembly do now elect ten Trustees, under this charter, five of whom shall be ministers, and five laymen, all of whom shall be connected with some Presbytery or church under the care of the General Assembly.

Resolved, 4. That the first meeting of the Trustees shall be at such time and place as shall be fixed by the Trustee first elected, or in case of his inability to act, the Trustee next elected, who shall act as Chairman, until the Board is constituted by the election of a President and Secretary.

Resolved, 5. That the Trustees, at their first meeting, be directed to divide themselves into two portions, and in such manner that there shall always be in the Board five ministers and five laymen.

Resolved, 6. That, in electing these Trustees, a nomination shall be made in the Assembly, and that the election shall be by ballot on the day following that on which the nomination is made,

Resolved, 7. That these Trustees be directed to keep an accurate record of all their proceedings, and report the same annually to the Assembly.

Resolved, 8. That these Trustees be directed to take such measures for raising the amount pledged by the last Assembly, for the purchase of the "Presbyterian House," as they may deem expedient and proper.

Resolved, 9. That the action of the Publication Committee, as reported to the Assembly, be approved, and the Committee instructed to proceed officially in discharging the duties of their appointment; and that a brief synopsis of their report be published in the Appendix to the Minutes, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

Resolved, 10. That the members of the Committee, whose term of office expires during these sessions of the Assembly, namely, Rev. Albert Barnes,

Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. William Eagleton, D. D., and Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., be re-elected.

Resolved, 11. That the report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, and that of the Publication Committee, having been audited, be approved.

Resolved, 12. That the Trustees of the Presbyterian House be directed to report to the next Assembly a plan of rules and regulations for the government of said Trustees in the discharge of their duties.

Nominations for Trustees of the Presbyterian House were made; the election to take place to-morrow.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [28]

Friday, May 25th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. Half an hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave had been given to Rev. E. D. Morris, Rev. S. Cowles, Elders J. R. Bates and Charles Barnes, Rev. A. H. Gaston, Elders E. Gillett and S. Beckley, Rev. A. G. Gallaher, and Elder P. C. Baldwin.

The Committee to nominate the *Church Extension Committee* reported the following names: Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Thos. J. Shepherd, Rev. Henry Darling, Rev. Benj. J. Wallace, M. M. Baldwin, John A. Brown, Thomas B. Sparhawk, Rev. Geo. L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Sam'l T. Spear, D. D., Rev. John C. Smith, D. D., Hon. John L. Mason, Joseph B. Sheffield, and Hon. Edward A. Lambert. The report was adopted.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for the various pulpits in the city and vicinity on the ensuing Sabbath.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures made the following reports, which were severally adopted:

Your Committee report an Overture from the Synod of Missouri, respecting the common version of the Bible. The said memorial sets forth the fact that strenuous efforts have been made for years, and are now made, especially in the West, to destroy confidence in, and set aside, our common and most excellent version of the Bible, as very defective and sectarian, and to introduce a new one.

The memorial, moreover, sets forth, that we, as Presbyterians, have been misrepresented, and the idea conveyed that some of our ministers favor this scheme. Our silence on the subject has resulted in making the impression, among some of our people, that the common version of the Bible is not worthy of confidence. Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we have unshaken confidence in our common version, and a firm belief that a better one on the whole, for common use, cannot be had.

Resolved, 2. That we deprecate the incalculable evils that would inevitably result from such an attempt, by any denomination or denominations, to introduce a new version, destroying, as it would, confidence in our common version, ejecting it from our schools, opening the way for conflicting, sectarian versions, and sadly wounding and marring our beautiful Protestantism.

Resolved, 3. That, in the judgment of this Assembly, not one of our judicatories, and not one minister, approves of, or sympathizes with, this injudicious sectarian movement.

Resolved, 4. That all our ministers be careful, in expounding the word publicly, so to expound, as to inspire and sustain confidence in our excellent version, as truly the Word of God; believing, as we do, that the honest-hearted inquirer searching after the truth, with a teachable spirit, will find it.

An Overture has also been received from the Presbytery of Chi[29]cago, asking that measures be adopted by the Assembly to obtain an equal representation in the Prudential Committee of the American Board of Foreign Missions.

And that arrangements be made with the Board to secure the erection of Presbyteries on foreign shores.

The Committee report, in regard to the first part: That inasmuch as the Prudential Committee meet, of necessity, weekly, to transact the important business intrusted to them, it does not seem to be possible to make any arrangement different from that already existing.

In regard to the second part, they recommend that the matter be left with the Standing Committee of the Assembly, appointed for the express purpose alluded to in the Overture, and who are to make a report to this body at the present sessions.

An Overture has also been placed in the hands of the Committee, asking, that, in view of the present unbecoming and censurable variety existing in the churches in their form of admission of church members on profession of their faith, and in view of the fact that such an act is a universal one, and the same in all our churches, a special Committee be appointed to report to the next General Assembly some form of admission for general use by all our churches; and that the same, if approved, be recommended by the Assembly, that there may be uniformity and impressive propriety in such a public solemn act.

The Committee recommend that the Overture be accepted by the Assembly, and that such a Committee be appointed.

The Assembly proceeded to the election of three Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, in the place of those whose term of service is about to expire; and the following individuals were elected: Walter S. Griffith, Oliver H. Lee, and William E. Dodge.

As Trustees of the Presbyterian House, the following individuals were elected: John A. Brown, M. W. Baldwin, Charles S. Wurts, Samuel H. Perkins, John C. Farr, Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, Rev. Henry Darling, and Rev. David H. Riddle, D. D.

The Assembly then took up the unfinished business of yesterday, namely, the consideration of the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures relative to the subject of Slavery.

After protracted discussion, the previous question was moved and carried, after which, the report of the Committee, as amended, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee of Bills and Overtures has received memorials on the subject of Slavery from the Synod of Iowa, the Synod of Western Reserve, the Presbyteries of Elyria, St. Joseph, Cincinnati, Champlain, Ithaca, Peoria and Knox, Wabash, Athens, Maumee, Hamilton, Indianapolis, Geneva, and the Congregational church of Colden; all couched in the most respectful language, all complaining that the orders of the Assembly of 1853 have not been complied with, and all of them calling for action on the part of the Assembly. [30]

They have also received a memorial from the Presbytery of Philadelphia,

3d, deprecating any action on the part of this body, out of a sincere regard for the peace, unity, and prosperity of the Church.

After protracted, deliberate, and prayerful consideration of the whole subject, the Committee are unanimous in recommending to the General Assembly the following action:

1. That the General Assembly address a pastoral letter to all the churches under their care, re-affirming the testimony of past Assemblies in regard to the sinfulness of the system of Slavery, as it generally exists in these United States, and expressing their deep regret at the intemperateness of word and action that has too often characterized the spirit of those who have conscientiously aimed at its overthrow; and that they urge upon their churches earnest efforts, by all Christian and constitutional modes, to remove the evil from the midst of us.

2. That a Committee be appointed to report to the next Assembly on the constitutional power of the Assembly over the subject of slaveholding in our churches; and that we recommend that this evil be removed from our Church, as soon as it can be done in a Christian and constitutional manner.

Resolved, That the Trustees of the Presbyterian House be, and they hereby are, authorized to receive and hold in trust the title to the property of any individual church which may be confided to them, provided that it be in accordance with the terms of their charter.

Adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 25th, 3½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Moderator announced the following Committees:

On a Form of Admission to the Church—Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., and Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D.

On the Pastoral Letter—Rev. James P. Wilson, D. D., Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., Rev. William Lusk, Rev. Samuel K. Sneed, and Rev. Samuel S. Thomson.

On the Constitutional Powers of the Assembly—Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. A. H. H. Boyd, D. D., Hon. Wm. Jessup, LL.D., and Hon. Augustus P. Hascall.

The resolutions upon the subject of Temperance were taken from the docket, adopted, and are as follows:

Whereas, Intemperance is the great antagonist of domestic peace and social happiness—of sound morality and pure Christianity, and at war with all the dearest interests of man for this world and the future; and *whereas*, the experience of two hundred years proves, that [31] this evil can never be removed or effectively resisted, while the traffic in intoxicating drinks is continued, it being necessary if we would stop the effect to remove the cause; therefore

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly, as lovers of our holy religion, of our country and our race, and as office-bearers in the Church, can but feel a lively interest in the progress of the Temperance reform.

Resolved, 2. That we here record our devout thanksgiving to Almighty God, for the recent unparalleled progress of this reform, as evinced by the action of the Legislatures of thirteen States and two Territories of our Union, in the passage of laws prohibiting entirely the traffic in all intoxicating beverages.

Resolved, 3. That, in the opinion of this body, laws prohibiting the sale of

intoxicating drinks, can interfere with the rights of no man; because no man has a right of any name or nature, inconsistent with the public good, or at war with the welfare of the community; it being a well-known and universally acknowledged maxim of law, that "No man has a right to use his own to the injury of his neighbor."

Resolved, 4. That we earnestly recommend to the ministers and congregations in our connection, and to all others, to persevere in vigorous efforts until laws shall be enacted in every State and Territory of our beloved country, prohibiting entirely a traffic which is the principal cause of the drunkenness, and its consequent pauperism, crime, taxation, lamentation, war, and ruin to the bodies and souls of men, with which the country has so long been afflicted.

The report of the special Committee on the Annual Report of the Education Committee was considered, adopted, and is as follows:

The special Committee, to whom was referred the first annual report of the "Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry," in view of the suggestions of that report, and of the urgent needs of the Education cause, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the first resolution adopted by the Assembly of the last year, as given on page 506 of the Minutes, be so amended as to read, that, "A Committee of fifteen ministers and members of the Presbyterian Church, of whom five shall always be laymen, shall be appointed by the General Assembly, to be called 'The Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry;' seven of whom shall reside in or near the city of Philadelphia. Five members of this Committee shall constitute a quorum; but for the election of a Secretary of Education, or for action upon his salary, a majority shall be necessary to a quorum."

Resolved, 2. This Committee, as thus enlarged, shall divide itself into three equal classes, the first, second, and third, whose terms of office shall expire, respectively, in one, two, and three years. The General Assembly shall annually elect after the present year, five members of this Committee for three years, to fill such vacancies. It shall also, each year, fill any vacancy which may have occurred in the other classes. The Committee shall have power, by the vote of a majority, to fill any vacancies occurring in the interval between the sessions of two Assemblies for such an interval. [32]

Resolved, 3. That it is inexpedient for this Assembly to proceed to the election of a General Secretary of Education; but that it direct the Standing Committee to procure for that office, if possible, the services of the Rev. Artemas Bullard, D. D., of St. Louis.

Resolved, 4. That this Assembly earnestly commend the whole subject of Education for the ministry to the special care of the Synods, Presbyteries, and churches, exhorting them to use all diligence in searching out suitable candidates for the ministry, and to increased faithfulness in training them for the whole work of the ministry; and that all the churches be requested to take up annual collections for this most important object.

The report of the Committee of the last Assembly "On the memorial with reference to Infirm Ministers," was referred to the Standing Committee on Education for the Gospel Ministry.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Committee on Church Psalmody; and the following substitute was adopted:

Resolved, 1. That the Publication Committee confer with the proprietors of the "Church Psalmist," and secure, if possible, the transfer, on reasonable terms, of the copyright of said book to the General Assembly, and that the Committee have full powers to close arrangements binding on the Assembly.

Resolved, 2. That, in case of failure, said Committee report to the next General Assembly, and at the same time recommend to that body the course which they deem it most advisable to pursue in the premises.

Resolved, That the Trustees of those colleges within our bounds which originated in the action of any of the Synods connected with this Assembly, and the colleges which now report to said Synods, be requested to make a report annually before the 15th of April to the Education Committee, to be incorporated in their annual report to the Assembly.

The following individuals were nominated and elected as members of the *Standing Committee on Education* for the Gospel Ministry, with power to elect their own chairman. Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. John Jenkins, Rev. Geo. Duffield, Jr., Rev. Henry Darling, Rev. Thos. J. Shepherd, William Purves, Hon. Wm. Jessup, LL.D., Rev. Thos. H. Skinner, D. D., Rev. William Adams, D. D., Rev. J. J. Owen, D. D., Rev. A. A. Wood, I. B. Pinneo, Norman White, and J. W. Benedict.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Presbyteries made the following report, which was adopted.

The Standing Committee appointed by the last Assembly to correspond with the missionaries, and with the Prudential Committee of the American Board, in reference to the formation of foreign Presbyteries, report that their Chairman has failed to prepare and submit a report for their consideration, and that a majority of the Committee being present desire that Rev. A. E. Campbell, D. D., and Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., be added to the Committee.

The paper presented by Rev. S. K. Sneed, relative to the appointment of a *day of fasting* and prayer on account of the wide-spread [33] immoralities of our land and the consequent divine judgments upon it, was referred to a special *Committee*, consisting of Rev. P. G. Cook, Rev. S. Mills Day, and Hon. E. A. Lambert.

Resolutions upon the subject of *Mileage* were introduced, and referred to a special *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Robert Adair and Rev. John Crowell.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 26th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual time spent in devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave had been given to Rev. D. M. Lord, Rev. C. E. Rosenkrans, Rev. W. F. Doubleday, Rev. R. S. Crampton, and Elders Wm. Brocks, J. R. Lee, L. S. Crawford, and Geo. Mygatt.

It was moved to reconsider the reference of the Overture from the Presbytery of Chicago on Foreign Presbyteries to the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions; and, after an extended discussion, the motion was lost.

The Committee on the Narrative of the State of Religion made their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Mileage, made the following report, which was adopted:

Whereas, a full representation, both of ministers and elders, from all the Presbyteries, is essential to the efficiency and welfare of the Church; and *whereas* this can be secured only by the co-operation of all the Presbyteries in raising an adequate fund to defray the necessary expenses of all the Commissioners to the Assembly; Therefore

Resolved, 1. That Messrs. J. W. Benedict and W. P. Cook, together with the Stated Clerk, be a *Committee, to estimate* the probable amount that will be required to defray the traveling *expenses* of Commissioners, and the contingent expenses of the Assembly, to assess the same in equitable proportions upon the Presbyteries, and to inform each Presbytery of its quota, as soon as practicable after the rising of this Assembly.

Resolved, 2. That on the fourth day after the opening of the Assembly, the Presbyteries shall be called upon to report whether the amount assessed upon them has been paid into the Treasury of the Assembly.

Resolved, 3. That the Commissioners to the Assembly, whose Presbyteries have paid their assessment, shall, within four days from and after the opening of the Assembly, present a bill of their necessary traveling expenses to the Standing Committee on Mileage, to be [34] audited by them, and paid in equal proportions, according to the funds in the hands of the Committee.

Resolved, 4. That all prior regulations of the Assembly on the subject of Mileage inconsistent with these resolutions be, and they are hereby, rescinded.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Pastoral Letter made the following report, which was adopted:

The Committee appointed to draft a Pastoral Letter to the churches under the care of the General Assembly, report, that in view of the entire insufficiency of time allotted for the performance of the duty assigned, and the utter impossibility, in such a limited period, of doing justice to so important a subject, or satisfying themselves or the Assembly, it be recommended to the General Assembly to re-consider the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, with the view of amending it, so as to strike out the words, "address a Pastoral Letter to the churches under their care," and make it read as follows: "That the General Assembly hereby re-affirm the testimony of past Assemblies in regard to the sinfulness of the system of Slavery, as it generally exists in these United States, and express their deep regret at the intemperateness of word and action which has too often characterized the spirit of those who have conscientiously aimed at its overthrow; and that they urge upon their churches earnest efforts, by all Christian and constitutional modes, to remove the evil from the midst of us."

In accordance with this report, the previous action of the Assembly upon this subject was reconsidered, and the proposed amendment was made.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 26th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Committee, to whom was referred the paper on the appointment of a day of fasting and prayer, made the following report, which was adopted:

Resolved, That in view of the late drought, the effects of which have been so severely experienced throughout the land during the past year, we clearly discern the dispensation of an over-ruling Providence, who corrects in kindness and afflicts in love. That we humbly acknowledge our entire dependence upon our Father in heaven, for both temporal and spiritual blessings; that we devoutly pray for the forgiveness of those sins which have required the visitation of His chastening hand, and that we gratefully own that it is by reason only of God's abounding mercy that we are now permitted to rejoice in the hope of returning fruitfulness and plenty.

The Committee upon the communication from the Delegate of the [35] New York Association made their report, which, after amendment, was adopted, and is as follows:

Whereas, the General Association of New York, at their meeting in Madrid, held August 23, 1854, by resolution forwarded to this body, have addressed us in a discourteous and objectionable manner; Therefore

Resolved, That the Assembly would respectfully request that the future communications of the Association to us be couched in courteous language.*

The Standing Committees of the Assembly respectively reported that no business was before them, and asked to be discharged. Their request was granted.

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Assembly be, and they are hereby, returned to Rev. W. C. Wisner, D. D., for the prompt, the able, the kind, the patient, the impartial and Christian manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of this body during its present sessions.

The traveling expenses of the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, to Rhode Island, Wisconsin, and Vermont; the bill for printing and stationery, the janitor's bill, with the salary and traveling expenses of the Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

The expenses of Rev. O. P. Hoyt, in the performance of duties as a Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, in the year 1849, were allowed, and ordered to be paid.

Resolved, That the thanks of the General Assembly be presented to the several railroad companies who have generously permitted the members of this Assembly to attend their sessions in St. Louis at a reduced fare.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the citizens of St. Louis, who have extended their hospitality to the Commissioners and others in attendance, and have contributed to make their stay in this city so peculiarly pleasant; with the assurance of our fervent prayer that the blessing of God, in connection with this Assembly, may rest upon them.

Also, that the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the Committee of Arrangements, for their promptness and activity in providing for our comfort.

Also, that the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to the Trustees of the Union Presbyterian church for the accommodations extended to the Assembly during their present session.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be given to Rev. Wm. Bradford, editor of the *Daily New York Evangelist*, for his full and minute report of the proceedings of the Assembly during its present sessions.

The Minutes of the session were read and approved.

The calling of the Roll was dispensed with.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for the dissolving of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved; and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same [36] manner, to meet in the Madison Square Presbyterian church, or in some other church designated by the Committee of Arrangements, in the city of New York, on the third Thursday of May 1856, at 11 o'clock A. M.

HENRY DARLING, *Permanent Clerk.*

St. Louis, May 26th, 1855.

* The resolution complained of is the following:

"*Resolved*, That, in continuing our correspondence with ecclesiastical bodies having churches in slaveholding States, the Association, so far from expressing any satisfaction with the practice of slaveholding, desire it to be understood, that, in connection with other objects, it is for the purpose of bearing their continued and earnest testimony against the sin of slaveholding and exerting their appropriate influence in favor of its speedy removal."—R.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1855.

Of the 108 Presbyteries on the Roll, 69 have sent up their annual Narratives on the State of Religion. From a patient and careful examination of them all, our hearts are cheered with the evidences that God is in the midst of us. A large proportion of the Presbyterial Narratives, we are happy to say, present a specific statement of the condition and prospects of the churches within their respective bounds. And, as we have perused these papers, and the eye has roamed over our wide field in rapid transit, without reference to order, resting now upon the city, and now upon the prairie, Presbyteries, the scene is one to stir the heart of every son and servant of the Church. Shade and sunshine diversify the landscape, but the sunlight prevails.

On the whole, the past year has been one of progress. Peace and prosperity are within our borders. With few exceptions, our churches have had rest. Our various departments of Christian enterprise have gone on undisturbed. Our cords are being lengthened and our stakes strengthened. There is much to encourage us to renewed devotion, activity, and prayer. The voice of Prophecy and Providence alike says to us as a Church, "Go up and possess the land."

Your Committee have found it no small task to collect, arrange, and condense the varied mass of information contained in the Narratives: but they have selected the following items as worthy of record:

Church Erection.

The subject of supplying all our congregations with houses of worship is just now occupying a large share of the attention of our Church. Twenty-one Presbyteries report thirty-three church-edifices completed during the year, or as now being toward completion; while a great number of churches are anxiously awaiting the day of their ability to "rise and build," aided by the Church Erection Fund. In all of our pioneer Presbyteries the want of suitable places of worship is sadly felt. One Presbytery, having under its care six churches, reports: "We have but one house of worship (except the shanty church at B.) in our Presbytery, and that was erected two years since, at an expense of over $1500, $300 of which were loaned from the Synod's Church Erection Fund."

Two other churches in this Presbytery are now struggling to build for themselves, while our Hundred Thousand Dollar Fund remains incomplete and unavailable. We cannot too earnestly urge upon our churches the duty of completing this important undertaking.

Want of Laborers.

Nor are churches alone needed. From most of our Western Presbyteries, South and North, there comes up the earnest call for "more men." One says: "We deplore the scarcity of ministers to fill the waste places." Another: "On this wide field we have but six ministers in actual service. Many churches and fields of labor are vacant. We greatly need more laborers, and feel the necessity of greater efforts to bring forth our young men into the ministry, that the Master's vineyard may be better cultivated." Another: "Our laborers are few. The field is large and ripe for harvest.

We pray for laborers." Another: "We have nine ministers to twenty-four churches." Another: "Six ministers to seventeen churches." Another: "We have to lament the destitutions on our field. Population is rapidly increasing, but our laborers do not increase in the same ratio." Another: "In many destitute places within our bounds, the earnest cry is heard from brethren and sisters of our own faith, 'Send us a minister,' while at the same time, some of our own vacant churches are calling in vain, and well nigh famishing, for the bread of life." Another: "Our churches are well attended, and new fields are opening with uncommon promise, but our ministers are too few; the demand far exceeding the supply; and we are compelled to give these places over to others, or suffer them to lie waste." We present these extracts, from eight different States, merely as specimens, with the hope of calling the attention of the whole Church to this point. Money we are offered. A support for every man whom we will furnish is pledged to us on the floor of the Assembly. Churches will be built, but where are the men to occupy them? New and wide doors are opening invitingly to our approach, but where are the men to enter them? Here, so far as concerns outward means for the enlargement of our Church, is our weakest point. "Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth laborers into his harvest." The last General Assembly, in session at Philadelphia, held the following language on this subject: "Many Presbyteries are seeking enlargement, and are hindered by the want of ministers, and of suitable places of worship. * * * * The reports on education for the ministry show that but partial attention has been given to the subject. The general interest felt concerning it is very far below what it should be, for it is second to no other. We believe it will never receive the consideration becoming its importance until our churches shall cease to rely upon any organizations, either ecclesiastical or voluntary, and shall make it a matter of daily prayerful concern among themselves." That Assembly also devolved upon this Committee the duty of incorporating into the Narrative whatever should be deemed of service to this subject. Your Committee regret to add that, so far as appears from the reports laid upon the table of the Assembly, we, as a Church, have made little advance in this direction during the year past. And they feel impelled to ask, with great solicitude, if something cannot be done to increase the number of candidates for the Gospel ministry.

Religious Education.

When we turn to the subject of the religious instruction of our children and youth, the face of our Church presents a different appearance. "Truly the light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the sun."

The universal interest among our churches in behalf of the rising generation gives promise for the future. Almost every Presbytery speaks of Sabbath-schools and Bible classes in all the churches; that they are well sustained, with increasing interest, and with enlarged numbers in attendance. Ten of our Presbyteries make special mention of the Assembly's Catechism, that it is more and more engaging the attention of their churches. "In the church of B.," says one Narrative, and it is the "shanty church" above mentioned, "85 Sabbath-school scholars have committed the whole of the Catechism to memory." Another Presbytery, having under its care 16 churches, reports: "With two or three exceptions, the Assembly's Catechism is taught in all our churches." Another mentions "the thorough recital of the entire Catechism by a child only four years of age." Another remarks: "In this respect we are returning to the customs of our fathers,

who spared no pains to deposit these treasures of Scriptural truth in the minds of the rising generation."

Your Committee quote these instances of devotion to catechetical instruction with great pleasure, and desire to record them as worthy examples to be followed by our whole Church.

We also notice, with gratitude to God, the increasing number of schools and seminaries springing up within our bounds, the result of Christian enterprise, to provide ample facilities for the liberal education of our sons and daughters.

Calvinistic Presbyterianism has ever been identified with a sound and liberal education for ministers and people. Its distinctive principles of faith and order grow best and flourish only in an atmosphere of intelligence; and we rejoice with thanksgiving that this ancient spirit still lives, and the mantles of the fathers have fallen upon the men present.

Several of our Southern Presbyteries report that their colored population are receiving a commendable degree of attention, and your Committee earnestly hope that churches and Christian families in our connection, will devote themselves to this work, and set before the world the wholesome example of public and family religious instruction to all their servants, young and old. Here is a point where all our churches involved in the difficulties of slavery can at least mitigate its evils, can testify by their acts of duty their fidelity to God, and their sense of obligation to those under their care, as the stewards of the mysteries of grace.

Revivals of Religion.

More than half of the Presbyteries from whom we have received reports have sent us cheering tidings of refreshings from the presence of the Holy Spirit. While upon some congregations have fallen but the gentle dews of grace, others have been moved with great power, resulting in large additions to the Church.

One hundred and twenty-four churches are specified as having enjoyed revivals of religion, while many of the Narratives barely mention this item in such general terms as these: "refreshing showers," "several revivals among us." One of our city Presbyteries reports: "With the exception of one small congregation, all our churches report conversions. In two, the work of reviving Christians and converting sinners to the faith of the Gospel has proceeded with great power; in another, a very precious season has been enjoyed, and the other churches have shared in like evidences of God's gracious presence." A few of the Narratives mention the number of conversions in the various churches; and we have gathered them up to the number of one thousand six hundred and eighty; but so many have given no figures that this presents no proper estimate of the number of the hopeful subjects of grace, which our blessed Master has given us during the past year. We thank Him for his goodness, while we deplore our own lack of faith and devotion, and pray for the speedy coming of the day of his power, when "one shall chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight."

The various causes of benevolence have been well sustained. Two Presbyteries only mention a decrease in their contributions, while many report an increase. This, considering the great financial embarrassments of the year, we regard as highly encouraging, and justly commendatory of the liberality of our churches.

Many churches which have been receiving missionary aid have become, during the year, self-supporting.

Nor has the good work of increasing the salaries of pastors been neglected.

Several Presbyteries report also that they (or their Synods) employ a missionary within their bounds to gather new churches, preach to vacant congregations, and promote, in various ways, the important interest of Church Extension.

There is evidently a growing family feeling among us, an increasing attachment to our own Church among its members, and a growing confidence in each other, on the part of ministers and churches, in the different sections of our wide field. May this confidence continue to grow by the exercise of a warm Christian charity, until "the watchmen shall see eye to eye, and lift up the voice together."

In conclusion, it only remains to record the names of thirty-one beloved brethren, whom, during the ecclesiastical year, the Chief Shepherd has called from among us to join "the general assembly and Church of the first born which are written in heaven."

Fathers and brethren, the time is short. How soon will our names appear in the annual list of the

Deaths of Ministers.

Rev.	James Miller,	of the Presbytery of	Champlain.
"	William Chittenden,	"	Watertown.
"	Israel Brainerd,	"	Utica.
"	Charles E. Avery,	"	Cayuga.
"	Eliphaz A. Platt,	"	Geneva.
"	Joseph Strough,	"	Bath.
"	John Humphrey,	"	Tioga.
"	Eliphalet M. Spencer,	"	Otsego.
"	Francis Janes,	"	Delaware.
"	Robert W. Hume,	"	"
"	Abraham Forman,	"	Ontario.
"	Reuben Tinker,	"	Buffalo.
"	Tyrrel Blair,	"	Angelica.
"	James H. Thomas,	"	North River.
"	Henry Kinney,	"	"
"	Isaac Lewis, D. D.,	"	Brooklyn.
"	Samuel Bell,	"	Wilmington.
"	William R. Durnett,	"	Philadelphia, Fourth.
"	Hezekiah W. Osborne,	"	Grand River.
"	Myron Tracy,	"	Portage.
"	William B. Stow,	"	Maumee.
"	James Rowland,	"	Franklin.
"	Robert H. Bishop, D. D.,	"	Hamilton.
"	Edwin Holt,	"	Madison.
"	Alfred Hawes,	"	Fort Wayne.
"	John Blatchford, D. D.,	"	Schuyler.
"	Calvin Butler,	"	Alton.
"	Samuel R. Wylie,	"	"
"	William P. Kendrick,	"	Ottawa.
"	Hiram F. Taylor,	"	Des Moines.
"	John F. Cook,	"	District of Columbia.
"	Thomas L. Hanmer,	"	"

By order of the General Assembly.

WILLIAM C. WISNER, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF SCHEDULES.

I. Of the Synods and their Presbyteries.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	Commiss. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	5	78	2	3	66	281	137	9043	118	111	$145 48	$22 00	$3933 63	$3726 52	$918 96	$2661 79	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	25	...	...	21	89	46	2656	26	35	.....	.....	293 00	768 59	.....	.....	David Dobie.
2. Troy	1820	...	24	1	...	16	78	37	2970	47	33	65 40	12 00	549 44	987 21	632 00	592 22	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany	1791	...	10	1	2	11	32	24	1490	17	15	22 08	10 00	2060 09	1162 00	13 00	1167 39	Eber M. Rollo.
4. Columbia	1802	...	6	...	1	6	53	13	908	20	16	22 00	.....	390 00	271 00	100 00	350 00	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill	1851	...	13	...	...	12	29	17	1019	8	12	36 00	.....	641 10	537 72	173 96	552 18	Josiah Leonard.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	4	69	3	18	77	196	150	7453	69	115	105 50	11 88	2447 29	2865 54	1388 38	2604 26	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	6	...	3	8	21	12	735	6	11	.....	.....	90 87	439 25	207 00	146 25	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	17	...	8	22	97	48	1968	40	47	45 50	1 88	327 39	631 20	99 00	622 61	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego	1823	...	14	...	...	18	36	23	1494	4	19	.....	.....	971 14	793 42	473 19	663 55	Thomas A. Weed.
4. Utica	1842	...	32	3	7	29	42	67	3256	19	38	60 00	10 00	1057 89	1001 67	609 19	1171 85	Samuel W. Brace.
III. Synod of Geneva	1812	5	104	2	4	92	437	277	10,344	177	194	146 56	.....	3144 61	2903 37	1704 09	2746 94	Henry A. Nelson.
1. Geneva	1805	...	44	1	3	29	220	117	4598	80	79	28 92	.....	1629 19	1475 53	1077 72	1746 32	Charles Hawley.
2. Bath	1817	...	12	...	1	18	90	42	1607	47	21	11 82	.....	389 20	255 54	287 71	243 44	B. Coleman Smith.
3. Chemung	1836	...	24	...	...	21	75	73	2092	25	49	13 50	.....	494 00	674 00	193 00	373 00	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	12	1	...	11	38	32	1542	16	38	63 32	.....	568 11	498 30	119 66	384 18	William N. McHarg.
5. Pennsylvania	1845	...	12	...	...	13	14	13	505	9	7	29 00	.....	64 11	.....	26 00	.....	Elijah D. Wells.
IV. Synod of Onondaga	1855	4	91	8	11	76	202	219	8256	61	133	171 27	17 00	3650 57	2772 43	1096 95	1519 77	
1. Onondaga	1810	...	31	...	4	26	21	75	2659	6	49	63 00	5 00	1044 46	796 62	204 40	735 77	Seth P. M. Hastings.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	34	8	3	22	56	50	2402	29	37	32 00	9 00	1060 02	683 83	660 87	497 62	Henry A. Nelson.
3. Cortland	1825	...	15	...	4	17	82	51	1697	7	21	50 00	.....	1034 16	522 21	98 00	60 00	Hercules R. Dunham.
4. Tioga	1829	...	11	...	...	11	43	43	1498	19	26	26 27	3 00	511 93	769 77	133 68	226 38	Peter Lockwood.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	Commiss. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
V. S. of Susquehanna...	1853	3	47	...	6	46	113	64	4699	33	49	$97 00	$10 00	$1354 15	$1434 36	$378 30	$185 91	David Torrey.
1. Otsego	1820	...	18	...	2	19	56	22	1660	23	28	46 00	10 00	420 86	773 00	231 37	185 91	John G. Hall.
2. Chenango	1826	...	14	...	2	17	39	42	1696	10	21	51 00	.....	933 29	661 36	146 93	.....	Henry Callahan.
3. Delaware	1831	...	15	...	2	10	18	...	1343	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Isaac D. Cornwell.
VI. Synod of Genesee...	1821	6	116	8	8	126	472	431	14,447	115	225	280 80	18 00	6053 44	4008 43	3091 14	7717 57	Timothy Stillman.
1. Genesee	1819	...	15	...	1	16	17	21	1504	7	9	17 00	.....	430 00	336 50	437 25	660 19	Gabriel S. Corwin.
2. Ontario	1817	...	12	1	...	16	28	34	1690	10	19	37 50	6 00	235 87	137 00	277 67	444 85	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester	1819	...	23	1	4	17	126	77	2938	27	41	.....	.....	2891 03	1059 18	926 72	1493 99	Jonathan Copeland.
4. Niagara	1817	...	16	1	...	17	74	50	2511	27	37	42 80	.....	500 59	570 02	.....	2574 02	Charles E. Furman.
5. Buffalo	1823	...	42	4	3	43	131	240	4471	32	112	183 50	12 00	1925 95	1905 73	1418 22	2501 12	Timothy Stillman.
6. Angelica	1828	...	8	1	...	17	96	3	1333	12	7	.....	.....	70 00	.....	31 28	43 40	Samuel A. Rawson.
VII. S. of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	10	218	31	46	156	1063	1017	23,179	267	637	445 48	215 92	24,777 15	24,791 47	9867 97	4744 76	John N. Lewis.
1. Hudson	1797	...	16	1	3	13	126	45	1762	67	38	57 00	12 00	392 50	485 26	158 86	310 15	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	16	...	3	16	23	16	1643	10	22	23 00	7 50	843 37	925 79	925 54	555 00	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	11	...	...	6	16	9	554	7	29	27 68	2 02	133 50	139 78	20 00	63 63	Henry Clark.
4. New York, 3d	1831	...	41	11	30	22	376	243	5553	78	170	108 00	108 00	13,046 75	12,227 09	6448 14	2134 54	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, 4th	1845	...	31	12	7	11	116	141	2328	22	71	11 00	10 00	2368 27	4912 32	274 50	242 37	Thomas H. Skinner, Jr.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	17	2	...	8	117	99	2445	23	42	98 00	.....	2350 00	2490 00	480 00	633 00	James W. McLane, D.D.
7. Newark	1824	...	32	2	1	20	149	136	3630	18	107	70 40	63 40	4277 38	2126 80	1057 05	756 07	Joseph Few Smith, Jr.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	19	...	...	18	57	37	2539	12	51	50 40	10 00	554 00	709 18	316 88	50 00	Joel Campbell.
9. Montrose	1832	...	22	2	2	32	57	47	2423	26	63	.....	3 00	811 38	775 25	187 00	.....	Adam Miller.
10. San Francisco	1849	...	13	1	...	10	26	244	302	4	44	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel H. Willey.
VIII. Synod of Penna...	1838	4	77	5	15	68	432	244	10,179	112	351	212 50	61 58	6047 85	3941 16	3775 73	9517 07	John McKnight.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	9	...	...	17	46	23	1201	8	26	7 61	1 00	743 62	630 56	176 50	164 50	Abraham D. Pollock.
2. Philadelphia, 3d	1832	...	26	2	4	21	69	64	2924	26	103	31 00	29 00	394 60	384 83	458 94	101 05	John McKnight.
3. Philadelphia, 4th	1845	...	29	3	10	21	239	130	5084	65	151	123 89	29 38	3556 31	2277 92	2594 04	9118 52	Charles Brown.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	13	...	1	9	78	27	970	13	71	50 00	2 20	1353 32	647 85	546 25	133 00	Conway P. Wing.

IX. Synod of W. Penna.	1843	3	22	1	2	37	144	90	2694	52	115	47 88	8 20	885 60	1012 53	152 70	334 38	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	11	1	1	15	72	38	1172	27	47	.....	2 00	311 06	218 53	.....	280 38	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	7	...	1	16	49	16	890	23	41	20 88	3 20	145 54	22 00	152 70	30 00	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	4	...	...	6	23	36	632	2	27	27 00	3 00	429 00	772 00	.....	24 00	Samuel M. Sparks.
X. Synod of Michigan	1834	5	74	1	9	86	182	415	7296	51	174	128 64	30 00	2487 25	2030 34	864 36	2007 29	Chauncy Osborn.
1. Detroit	1826	...	23	...	3	28	52	179	3044	18	62	33 00	10 00	910 71	665 00	473 00	468 81	Robert R. Kellogg.
2. Monroe	1833	...	7	...	...	12	38	53	1148	10	42	17 00	4 00	385 85	281 12	.....	367 77	Henry G. Blinn.
3. Marshall	1838	...	17	...	1	22	54	94	1460	12	41	35 09	8 00	445 32	369 31	245 33	596 59	S. Dwight Pitkin.
4. Washtenaw	1838	...	15	1	5	13	17	40	1054	4	20	30 91	4 00	464 37	392 34	146 03	220 37	Lucius I. Root.
5. Kalamazoo	1838	...	12	...	...	11	21	49	590	7	9	12 64	4 00	281 00	322 57	.....	353 75	Milton Bradley.
XI. S. of W. Reserve	1825	7	122	7	3	110	139	228	6731	44	173	150 41	6 04	2064 80	2862 23	97 50	5088 44	William Hanford.
1. Grand River	1814	...	15	...	...	12	12	48	858	5	6	.....	.....	111 63	164 05	10 00	102 00	Ebenezer Bushnell.
2. Portage	1818	...	25	4	3	17	21	9	1143	2	20	10 67	.....	389 00	309 00	62 00	289 00	William Hanford.
3. Huron	1823	...	19	...	...	16	29	26	1116	8	38	37 48	.....	500 85	419 43	20 00	632 40	Alfred Newton.
4. Trumbull	1827	...	10	...	...	14	20	29	1073	3	34	22 15	.....	424 48	367 87	.....	229 09	Xenophon Betts.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	25	3	...	15	24	70	1157	7	19	45 61	4 44	152 61	811 85	.....	3166 88	James Shaw.
6. Elyria	1842	...	19	...	...	19	20	17	829	11	23	.....	.....	278 72	557 91	.....	238 68	Alfred H. Betts.
7. Maumee	1842	...	9	...	...	17	13	29	555	8	33	34 50	1 60	207 51	232 12	5 50	430 39	James H. Newton.
XII. Synod of Ohio	1814	4	57	5	7	79	294	183	4543	73	222	181 25	16 48	2095 26	1993 18	1496 53	1525 36	Add. Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens	1822	...	13	1	...	18	26	20	688	16	16	46 00	.....	186 50	122 00	113 00	94 00	James S. Walton.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	18	1	...	24	87	52	1766	16	69	30 75	9 48	883 66	781 36	879 50	786 95	Alexander Duncan.
3. Franklin	1835	...	17	1	7	24	43	56	1300	11	60	43 50	2 00	545 10	509 35	187 03	276 45	Henry Shedd.
4. Scioto	1845	...	9	2	...	13	138	55	789	30	77	61 00	5 00	470 00	580 47	317 00	367 96	Joseph Chester.
XIII. S. of Cincinnati	1829	3	45	11	20	35	109	85	2994	30	96	201 80	17 45	3397 38	2821 00	3104 20	2846 66	James J. Blaisdell.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	26	10	20	14	48	51	1553	9	59	137 50	10 00	2665 08	2411 00	1520 00	2763 00	D. Howe Allen, D. D.
2. Dayton	1838	...	9	...	...	10	40	29	808	12	25	22 30	7 45	686 30	275 00	1500 00	76 66	Daniel Rice.
3. Hamilton	1846	...	10	1	...	11	21	5	633	9	12	42 00	.....	46 00	135 00	84 20	7 00	Benjamin Graves.
XIV. Synod of Indiana.	1826	4	42	2	8	67	248	206	3051	78	159	147 60	21 50	2166 91	1239 58	2114 73	573 40	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem	1823	...	11	...	1	19	64	56	739	22	47	46 85	10 00	1003 30	407 44	324 25	281 00	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	13	1	7	16	88	51	911	32	59	44 75	6 50	582 40	290 80	121 45	193 40	Hiram Wason.

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3. Indianapolis	1830	...	10	1	...	17	9	48	799	2	20	$56 00	$5 00	$419 90	$298 03	$1665 03	$98 00	George M. Maxwell.
4. Green Castle	1850	...	8	...	...	15	87	51	602	22	33	.....	.....	161 31	243 31	4 00	1 00	William M. Cheever.
XV. Synod of Wabash	1851	5	41	4	5	71	161	93	3182	34	86	65 50	1 60	724 92	516 78	113 75	42 61	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	15	1	...	12	15	9	486	3	6	.....	.....	117 42	137 35	52 50	.....	William A. McCorkle.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	11	3	1	24	47	55	1269	10	27	18 50	1 60	301 12	139 65	22 25	.....	Norman Kellogg.
3. Logansport	1835	...	6	...	2	17	39	25	905	17	42	47 00	.....	267 38	203 78	20 00	42 61	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne*	1845	...	6	...	2	12	...	...	279	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Philander Anderson.
5. Elkhart	1852	...	3	...	...	6	60	4	243	4	11	.....	.....	39 00	36 00	19 00	.....	Nathan L. Lord.
XVI. Synod of Illinois	1831	4	59	3	9	79	161	180	4036	45	131	45 18	12 00	1376 18	1007 35	728 00	808 15	George C. Wood.
1. Illinois	1828	...	20	...	...	16	19	51	968	10	21	6 65	.....	517 98	530 00	.....	116 00	Livingston M. Glover.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	12	1	5	18	15	31	1193	4	23	.....	.....	101 00	139 00	200 00	90 45	Henry C. Abernethy.
3. Wabash	1823	...	6	...	...	10	8	19	252	4	19	.....	.....	12 50	22 00	.....	1 75	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	21	2	4	35	119	79	1623	27	68	38 53	12 00	744 70	316 35	528 20	599 95	Augustus T. Norton.
XVII. Synod of Peoria	1843	8	85	4	14	73	141	293	4103	29	151	107 82	17 10	2428 52	2573 09	2038 30	799 61	Ira M. Weed.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	13	...	...	11	10	11	278	2	14	5 02	.....	39 08	5 00	.....	158 00	Nahum Gould.
2. Peoria and Knox	1836	..	13	1	...	10	15	23	848	6	22	17 08	8 75	292 00	77 00	26 00	117 00	John W. Bailey.
3. Galena	1842	...	10	...	5	16	26	42	746	...	22	16 00	1 60	262 00	333 00	1020 00	267 00	Shubael G. Spees.
4. Chicago	1847	...	16	2	8	10	62	104	980	15	46	31 16	5 00	1530 36	1556 27	524 45	10 00	Lewis H. Loss.
5. Belvidere	1847	...	12	...	...	5	10	33	531	...	10	.....	.....	188 78	463 78	467 85	129 73	Alfred Eddy.
6. Minnesota	1850	...	6	...	...	7	12	52	211	5	14	25 62	.....	53 00	60 00	... .	7 50	Edward D. Neill.
7. Milwaukee	1851	...	8	1	...	6	2	6	269	1	9	7 69	.....	34 11	54 21	.....	110 38	William H. Spencer.
8. Fox River	1851	...	7	...	1	8	4	22	240	...	14	5 25	1 75	29 19	23 83	.....	.....	John B. Preston.
XVIII. Synod of Iowa	1853	3	25	1	9	32	165	70	912	25	53	46 20	12 70	166 16	130 35	1693 30	228 50	Edmund D. Holt.
1. Des Moines	1845	...	6	...	...	9	68	27	294	3	16	.....	3 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	Thompson Bird.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

2. Iowa City	1852	...	11	1	5	15	74	31	323	15	14	31 60	5 20	68 05	35 00	71 30	118 00	Samuel Storrs Howe.
3. Keokuk	1852	...	8	...	4	8	23	12	295	7	23	14 60	4 50	98 11	95 35	1622 00	110 50	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
XIX. S. of Missouri	1832	4	43	3	4	53	153	96	2233	56	146	30 25	11 30	964 15	353 75	1818 30	629 15	John Leighton.
1. Saint Louis	1831	...	13	...	3	13	38	24	704	9	19	.....	4 30	806 00	236 00	1690 00	271 50	Edmund Wright.
2. Northern Missouri	1845	...	7	...	1	11	15	13	589	4	21	4 00	2 00	44 25	100 00	.....	35 00	John Leighton.
3. Lexington	1845	...	13	2	...	13	49	41	515	21	76	14 65	.....	61 00	.....	103 40	262 65	Samuel J. M. Beebe.
4. Osage	1845	...	10	1	...	16	51	18	425	22	30	11 60	5 00	52 90	17 75	24 90	60 00	Joseph V. Barks.
XX. Synod of Virginia	1788	3	39	7	8	49	277	130	4080	98	220	235 50	5 00	3713 73	626 27	965 92	1127 19	Thomas D. Bell.
1. Winchester	1794	...	10	5	6	19	88	32	1155	40	35	60 00	5 00	241 78	123 00	183 67	245 38	Patterson Fletcher.
2. Dist. of Columbia	1831	...	12	1	1	13	142	67	1477	32	93	95 00	.....	1148 00	162 00	178 00	227 00	William McLain.
3. Hanover	1838	...	17	1	1	17	47	31	1448	26	92	80 50	.....	2323 95	341 27	604 25	654 81	Henry S. Osborn.
XXI. S. of Kentucky	1802	3	13	...	...	25	45	10	1160	16	29	95 50	6 20	156 00	30 00	20 00	138 00	Archer C. Dickerson.
1. Harmony	1842	...	5	...	...	10	14	7	346	8	5	34 50	5 00	91 00	30 00	20 00	138 00	Fincelius R. Gray.
2. Providence	1842	...	4	...	...	6	20	2	483	6	14	61 00	1 20	.....	.....	.....	.....	Thomas H. Cleland.
3. Green River	1842	...	4	...	...	9	11	1	331	2	10	.....	.....	65 00	.....	.....	.....	Archer C. Dickerson.
XXII. S. of Tennessee	1817	4	50	1	22	82	242	105	4960	55	194	187 50	19 20	885 22	268 85	101 00	255 10	John J. Robinson.
1. Union	1797	...	21	...	15	31	54	56	2020	15	74	15 00	3 20	207 45	.....	.....	38 00	Gideon S. White.
2. Holston	1826	...	11	1	5	17	133	34	1486	21	56	34 00	.....	540 72	186 00	70 00	209 60	Ira Morey.
3. Kingston	1838	...	9	...	...	19	34	11	711	14	43	138 50	16 00	30 50	17 85	6 00	7 50	William B. Brown.
4. New River	1838	...	9	...	2	15	21	4	743	5	21	.....	.....	106 55	65 00	25 00	.....	George Painter.
XXIII. S. of W. Tenn	1826	3	23	...	2	37	50	60	2199	17	25	119 10	7 40	285 60	54 70	180 85	.....	William Eagleton, D. D.
1. West Tennessee*	1810	...	6	...	1	7	...	...	619	...	...	.....	.....	.. ..	.....	.....	.....	Robert C. Garrison.
2. Shiloh	1816	...	7	...	...	16	32	57	900	10	7	56 00	2 40	55 35	36 00	84 00	.....	Amzi Bradshaw.
3. Richland	1824	...	10	...	1	14	18	3	680	7	18	63 10	5 00	230 25	18 70	96 85	.....	Archibald M. Pickens.
XXIV. S. of Mississippi	1846	4	27	2	5	37	109	107	1255	50	35	97 60	18 35	1665 00	.....	....	221 00	Charles M. Atkinson.
1. Clinton	1822	...	9	2	3	11	55	22	373	22	22	80 00	16 35	1033 00	.....	.....	200 00	Consider Parish.
2. Lexington, South	1845	...	7	...	1	9	...	...	390	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Fisher A. Tyler.
3. Newton	1845	...	7	...	...	14	54	45	452	28	13	17 60	2 00	632 00	.. ..	.....	21 00	James M. Richardson.
4. Texas*	1854	...	4	...	1	3	...	40	40	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Daniel C. Henderson.

II. Of the Synods.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	Commis. Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	78	2	3	66	281	137	9,043	118	111	$145.48	$22.00	$3,933.63	$3,726.52	$918.96	$2,661.79
2. Utica	1829	4	69	3	18	77	196	150	7,453	69	115	105.50	11.88	2,447.29	2,865.54	1,388.38	2,604.26
3. Geneva	1812	5	104	2	4	92	437	277	10,344	177	194	146.56	.....	3,144.61	2,903.37	1,704.09	2,746.94
4. Onondaga	1855	4	91	8	11	76	202	219	8,256	61	133	171.27	17.00	3,650.57	2,772.43	1,096.95	1,519.77
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	47	...	6	46	113	64	4,699	33	49	97.00	10.00	1,354.15	1,434.36	378.30	185.91
6. Genesee	1821	6	116	8	8	126	472	431	14,447	115	225	280.80	18.00	6,053.44	4,008.42	3,091.14	7,717.57
7. N. York and N. Jersey	1788	10	218	31	46	156	1063	1017	23,179	267	637	445.48	215.92	24,777.15	24,791.47	9,867.97	4,744.76
8. Pennsylvania	1838	4	77	5	15	68	432	244	10,179	112	351	212.50	61.58	6,047.85	3,941.16	3,775.73	9,517.07
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	22	1	2	37	144	90	2,694	52	115	47.88	8.20	885.60	1,012.53	152.70	334.38
10. Michigan	1834	5	74	1	9	86	182	415	7,296	51	174	128.64	30.00	2,487.25	2,030.34	864.36	2,007.29
11. Western Reserve	1825	7	122	7	3	110	139	228	6,731	44	173	150.41	6.04	2,064.80	2,862.23	97.50	5,088.44
12. Ohio	1814	4	57	5	7	79	294	183	4,543	73	222	181.25	16.48	2,095.26	1,993.18	1,496.53	1,525.36
13. Cincinnati	1829	3	45	11	20	35	109	85	2,994	30	96	201.80	17.45	3,397.38	2,821.00	3,104.20	2,846.66
14. Indiana	1826	4	42	2	8	67	248	206	3,051	78	159	147.60	21.50	2,166.91	1,239.58	2,114.73	573.40
15. Wabash	1851	5	41	4	5	71	161	93	3,182	34	86	65.50	1.60	724.92	516.78	113.75	42.61
16. Illinois	1831	4	59	3	9	79	161	180	4,036	45	131	45.18	12.00	1,376.18	1,007.35	728.00	808.15
17. Peoria	1843	8	85	4	14	73	141	293	4,103	29	151	107.82	17.10	2,428.52	2,573.09	2,038.00	799.61
18. Iowa	1853	3	25	1	9	32	165	70	912	25	53	46.20	12.70	166.16	130.35	1,693.30	228.50
19. Missouri	1832	4	43	3	4	53	153	96	2,233	56	146	30.25	11.30	964.15	353.75	1,818.30	629.15
20. Virginia	1788	3	39	7	8	49	277	130	4,080	98	220	235.50	5.00	3,713.73	626.27	965.92	1,127.19
21. Kentucky	1802	3	13	...	...	25	45	10	1,160	16	29	95.50	6.20	156.00	30.00	20.00	138.00
22. Tennessee	1817	4	50	1	22	82	242	105	4,960	55	194	187.50	19.20	885.22	268.85	101.00	255.10
23. West Tennessee	1826	3	23	...	2	37	50	60	2,199	17	25	119.10	7.40	285.60	54.70	180.85	
24. Mississippi	1846	4	27	2	5	37	109	107	1,255	50	35	97.60	18.35	1,665.00	.....	.....	221.00
		108	1567	111	238	1659	5816	4890	143,029	1705	3924	$3492.32	$566.90	$76,871.37	$63,963.28	$37,710.96	$48,322.91

THE GENERAL SUMMARY.

All the Presbyteries, with the exception of Fort Wayne, West Tennessee, and Texas, have forwarded their Statistical Reports for the present year. The latter is a new Presbytery, and the former Presbytery failed to secure the stated meeting at which the returns of the churches are made. The Presbyteries of Delaware and Lexington South report their ministers and the names of their churches, but none of the statistics of their churches. The Presbyteries of Oregon and San Francisco made no report of funds contributed during the past year; the latter Presbytery, however, report that the whole sum of money contributed by their churches, since the organization of their Presbytery in 1849, six years, has been $112,594. The report of contributions from the most of the Presbyteries is very imperfect. Some of the most wealthy and liberal churches,—*e. g.*, the First church in Philadelphia,—make no report of "funds contributed." A large number of churches have made no report at all to their Presbyteries, as indicated by the asterisk attached to the number of their communicants. It is greatly to be desired, that the Presbyteries give more attention to the requirement of full annual reports from every one of the churches.

The Synod of Onondaga was erected by the present Assembly, by a division of the Synod of Geneva. The Presbytery of Texas has been formed in connection with the Synod of Mississippi, and the Presbytery of Medina has been dissolved by the Synod of Western Reserve. The Presbytery of St. Joseph has, by order of this Assembly, been transferred from the Synod of Michigan to the Synod of Wabash.

The number of Presbyteries who have reported their Ecclesiastical Changes, —relative to the Licenses, Ordinations, Installations, Dissolutions, Depositions, Suspensions, Dismissions, Receptions, and Organizations,—is still so small, as to render it impossible to present any thing like a fair summary of these changes, in this general report. It is hoped that the Presbyteries will require of their Stated Clerks a careful attention to the requirements of the Assembly, on page 60 of these Minutes.

It is thought that the greater part of the Presbyteries report, of Candidates for the ministry, only those who have been regularly taken under their care. The rule requires that every church should make an annual report to its Presbytery of the number of its communicants who are studying for the ministry; and that the Presbytery report all these to the General Assembly. On account of so many failures in this particular, the report of the number of Candidates is still very imperfect.

In consequence of the extra effort for the Church Erection Fund, and the endowment of the Union Theological Seminary in New York, the returns under the heads of Domestic Missions, and Education for 1854, showed a very large increase over the previous year; and for 1855, a considerable decrease.

Comparative Results.

Synods	24	Increase	1
Presbyteries	108	Same as last year.	
Ministers	1567	Increase	5

Licentiates	111	Decrease	3
Candidates	238	Increase	40
Churches	1,659	Decrease	2
Additions on Examination	5,816	Increase	46
" " Certificate	4,890	Decrease	160
Whole No. of Communicants,	143,029	Increase	1552
Baptisms of Adults	1,705	Decrease	74
" " Infants	3,924	Increase	51

CONTRIBUTIONS.

Commissioners' Fund	$3,492 32	Decrease	$294 47
Contingent Fund	566 90	Decrease	112 38
Domestic Missions	76,871 37	Decrease	24,684 61
Foreign Missions	63,963 28	Increase	6,348 83
Education	37,710 96	Decrease	58,324 21
Publication	48,322 91	Increase	15,337 30
Total Contributions	$230,928 24	Decrease	$62,139 04

All which is respectfully submitted.

EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

New York, July 6th, 1855.

MINUTES, 1856.

New York City, May 15th, 1856.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, at the city of New York, on Thursday, the 15th day of May, A. D. 1856, at 11 o'clock A. M., in the Madison Square Presbyterian church, and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. William C. Wisner, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from Isaiah 46 : 9, 10 : "Remember the former things of old : for I am God, and there is none else ; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Permanent Clerk presented the report of the Committee on Commissions ; and the following persons were thereupon enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners to this General Assembly : [178]

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	Joseph T. Willett,	George V. Hoyle,
	Ashbel Parmelee, D. D.,	Samuel C. Weed.
2. *Troy*,	N. S. S. Beman, D. D., LL.D.,	Abner Loveland.
	Laurens P. Hickok, D. D.,	
3. *Albany*,	Eber M. Rollo,	Otis Allen.
4. *Columbia*,	Joseph N. McGiffert (2),	Dan Niles (4).
5. *Catskill*,	Linus H. Fellows.	

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	Baruch B. Beckwith.	
2. *Watertown*,	Edward C. Pritchett,	Lewis Stephens (2).
3. *Oswego*.	Jeremiah Petrie,	Obadiah A. Cooper.
4. *Utica*,	Edwin E. Williams,	Thomas Williams.
	Albert H. Corliss,	

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Geneva*,	Charles Hawley,	Isaac C. Stevens.
	Thomas Lounsbury, D. D. (2),	
2. *Bath*,	Edwin Benedict,	Calvin Blood.
3. *Chemung*,	Nathaniel Elmer,	Hon. Orrin Robinson.
4. *Ithaca*,	Adamus W. Platt (2),	David W. Himrod.
5. *Pennsylvania*,	Sidney Mills.	

IV. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

1. *Onondaga*,	Richard Dunning,	Alfred Cobb,
	Samuel H. Hall,	Henry B. Moore, M. D.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
2. *Cayuga*,	Elihu Barber,	Henry Willard,
	George W. Warner,	Abijah Fitch.
3. *Cortland*,	Ezra B. Fancher,	Nathan Bouton.
4. *Tioga*,	Marcus Ford, D. D.	

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	Daniel Van Valkenburgh,	Hon David H. Little.
2. *Chenango*,	William H. Lockwood,	Edgar A. Phillips.
3. *Delaware*,	Tertius S. Clark,	William McGibbon. [179]

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Genesee*,	Daniel C. Houghton,	Hon. Truman Lewis.
2. *Ontario*,	Pliny F. Sanborne,	Charles W. King.
3. *Rochester*,	Frank F. Ellinwood,	William Alling.
	Obadiah C. Beardsley,	
4. *Niagara*,	William C. Wisner, D. D.,	Samuel Tappan.
5. *Buffalo*,	William Waith, Jr.,	Selden M. Ely,
	Lewis F. Laine,	Stephen M. Clement.
6. *Angelica*,	Joel Wakeman.	

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Elias B. Fairchild, D. D.,	William S. Webb.
2. *North River*,	Michael F. Liebenau,	Sylvanus N. Hutchinson.
3. *Long Island*,	John Reid,	Edward Reeve.
4. *New York*, 3*d*,	Asa D. Smith, D. D.,	Joseph B. Sheffield,
	George L. Prentiss, D. D.,	Oliver H. Lee.
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	Joel Parker, D. D.,	Treadwell Ketchum,
	William Adams, D. D.,	Jesse W. Benedict.
6. *Brooklyn*,	Samuel T. Spear, D. D.,	Charles F. Tuttle.
7. *Newark*,	Isaac N. Sprague,	James B. Pinneo,
	William Aikman,	Matthias O. Halstead.
8. *Rockaway*,	John M. Johnson,	Joseph Kitchell.
9. *Montrose*,	Thomas S. Ward,	Hon. W. Jessup, LL.D.
10. *San Francisco*.		

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington*,	John W. Mears,	Hon. Samuel Jefferson.
2. *Philadelphia*, 3*d*,	Henry Darling,	Matthias W. Baldwin,
	John Jenkins,	Hon. A. Naudain, M. D.
3. *Philadelphia*, 4*th*,	George Chandler,	Hon. William Darling,
	Thomas Brainerd, D. D.,	Samuel T. Bodine.
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Conway P. Wing,	John B. Hall.

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	Thomas T. Bradford,	John B. Clark.
2. *Meadville*,	Samuel Montgomery.	
3. *Pittsburgh*,	Samuel M. Sparks,	John Sherrick (3).

X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	George Duffield, D. D.,	Edward Bingham.
2. *Monroe*,	Henry G. Blinn,	William H. Boyd.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
3. *Marshall*,	Hannibal L. Stanley,	Lorenzo Russell.
4. *Washtenaw*,	Alanson Scofield.	
5. *Kalamazoo*,	William S. Huggins.	[180]

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	Ebenezer Bushnell.	
2. *Portage*,	George E. Pierce, D. D.	
3. *Huron*,	Cornelius H. Taylor,	Elijah Bemis.
4. *Trumbull*,	Xenophon Betts,	Edward Spear (9).
5. *Cleveland*,	Joseph B. Bittinger,	Samuel H. Fox (3).
6. *Elyria*,	Alfred H. Betts,	Esek C. Bradford.
7. *Maumee*,	William W. Williams,	Mavor Brigham.

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Roswell Tenney,	Marcus Bosworth.
2. *Pataskala*,	Samuel P. Hildreth,	James Young.
3. *Franklin*,	Henry Shedd (5),	David F. McCullough.
4. *Scioto*,	Lucian C. Ford,	William Hamilton.

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	Hiram A. Tracy,	John Donaldson,
	George E. Day,	Henry Van Bergen (2).
2. *Dayton*,	George P. Tindall,	William Cottingham.
3. *Hamilton*,	Edward Scofield,	Hon. J. Scott Harrison.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	John M. Bishop,	Joseph Loughmiller.
2. *Madison*,	John Gerrish,	Miles W. Craig.
3. *Indianapolis*,	Thornton A. Mills.	
4. *Green Castle*,	Henry A. Rossiter,	John S. Jennings.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	William R. Palmer.	
2. *St. Joseph*,	Christopher Cory.	
3. *Logansport*,	Charles H. Marshall (2).	
4. *Fort Wayne*,	James Boggs,	Benjamin W. Oakley.

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	Thomas Lippincott.	
2. *Schuyler*,	Latten W. Dunlap,	Charles Cooledge, M. D.
3. *Wabash*,	John C. Campbell.	
4. *Alton*,	Josiah Wood,	Russell Tuthill. [181]

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa*,	Spencer Baker,	Joseph Baker.
2. *Peoria and Knox*,	Wells Andrews,	Azel Lyman.
3. *Galena*,		Horatio Newhall, M. D.
4. *Chicago*,	Harvey Curtis,	Augustine Chester.
5. *Belvidere*,	Alfred Eddy,	E. Howard Hyde.
6. *Minnesota*,	Joseph C. Whitney,	Daniel M. Coolbaugh.
7. *Milwaukee*,	Shubael G. Spees,	Jervis A. Hall.
8. *Fox River*,	John B. Preston.	

XVIII. SYNOD OF IOWA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Des Moines.*		
2. *Iowa City,*	Nelson C. Robinson,	Beaumont S. Holmes.
3. *Keokuk,*	William H. Williams,	William Harper.
4. *Dubuque.*		

XIX. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis.*	William H. Parks.	
2. *North Missouri,*	James W. Phillips,	Samuel McAfee.
3. *Lexington,*	Samuel J. M. Beebe.	
4. *Osage,*	William H. Smith.	

XX. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester,*	Andrew H. H. Boyd, D. D.,	Samuel Matheys (4).
2. *Dist. of Columbia,*	Andrew G. Carothers,	Wm. G. Knowles, M.D. (5).
3. *Hanover,*	Charles H. Read,	Samuel M. Price.

XXI. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

1. *Harmony,*	Augustus H. Carrier,	John R. Thornton.
2. *Providence,*	William T. McElroy,	John P. Lapsley.
3. *Green River.*		

XXII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union,*	John M. Caldwell,	Thomas W. Turley.
2. *Holston,*	Jonathan Lyons,	Samuel Rhea.
3. *Kingston,*	Thomas R. Bradshaw,	W. N. Bicknell, M. D.
4. *New River,*	James King.	[182]

XXIII. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

1. *West Tennessee.*		Donald Cameron.
2. *Shiloh,*	Alfred H. Dashiell, D. D.,	Wilson L. Watkins.
3. *Richland,*	Frederick A. Ross, D. D.,	Charles N. Ordway.

XXIV. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

1. *Clinton,*	John McCampbell,	Duke Askew.
2. *Lexington, South,*	William E. Holley.	
3. *Newton.*	Hervey Woods.	
4. *Texas,*	John H. Zivley.	

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

General Association of Massachusetts,	Rev. J. Jay Dana (3).
General Association of Connecticut,	Rev. Lavalette Perrin (5).
General Association of New Hampshire,	Rev. Joshua W. Wellman.
General Association of New York,	Rev. Richard S. Storrs, Jr., D. D. (2).
General Conference of Maine,	Rev. William T. Dwight, D. D. (4).
General Convention of Vermont,	Rev. Charles Walker, D. D.
General Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island,	Rev. Charles C. Beman.

Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin,	Rev. Reuben Smith.
General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States,	Rev. Wm. D. Strobel, D. D.
Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.	
General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.	
Union of the Evangelical Churches of France.	

The Permanent Clerk also reported the following persons as appearing without Commissions, and that their appointment is sustained by testimony satisfactory to the Committee:

Elder	Miles W. Craig,	of the Presbytery of	Madison.
"	Joseph Kitchell,	"	Rockaway,
"	Matthias O. Halstead,	"	Newark.
"	David F. McCullough,	"	Franklin.
"	David M. Coolbaugh,	"	Minnesota.
Rev.	Alanson Scofield,	"	Washtenaw. [183]

Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the names of the above persons be inserted in the Roll as Commissioners.

The Assembly proceeded to the election of a Moderator.

Rev. Laurens P. Hickok, D. D., of the Presbytery of Troy, Rev. George Duffield, D. D., of the Presbytery of Detroit, and Rev. Frederick A. Ross, D. D., of the Presbytery of Richland, were respectively nominated for the office. Upon calling the Roll, Rev. L. P. Hickok, D. D., received 79 votes; Rev. George Duffield, D. D., 74 votes; and Rev. F. A. Ross, D. D., 24 votes. No one having received a majority of all of the votes given, it was unanimously *Resolved*, That the Rev. Laurens P. Hickok, D. D., having received the highest number of votes, be the Moderator of this General Assembly, and he was inducted into office in the usual form.

Rev. Samuel H. Hall, of the Presbytery of Onondaga, and Rev. Shubael G. Spees, of the Presbytery of Milwaukee, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The printed Minutes of the last Assembly were distributed among the members.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 9 o'clock A. M., until 3 o'clock P. M.; with a brief recess at 12½ o'clock; and from 7½ o'clock P. M., until the adjournment; and that the first half hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises under the direction of the Moderator.

The docket of business was presented and read by the Stated Clerk.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

A paper, defining the duties of one of the Standing Committees of the Assembly, and providing for the appointment of other Standing Committees, was presented; and, after discussion, was referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church, about to be appointed.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow, to receive the Synodical Records, the Narratives and the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries, Overtures, memorials, appeals, and complaints.

The Assembly adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 16th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioners and Delegate were reported, and their names were entered upon the Roll: [184]

Elder Henry B. Moore, M. D.,	of the Presbytery of	Onondaga.
Rev. Adamus W. Platt,	"	Ithaca.
" Charles H. Marshall,	"	Logansport.
" Joseph N. McGiffert,	"	Columbia.
" Thomas Lounsbury, D. D.,	"	Geneva.
Elder Lewis Stephens,	"	Watertown.
" Henry Van Bergen,	"	Cincinnati.

Rev. Richard S. Storrs, Jr., D. D., Delegate from the General Association of New York.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Wm. C. Wisner, D. D., Asa D. Smith, D. D., Charles H. Read. *Elders*—Hon. William Darling, Hon. William Jessup, John R. Thornton.

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—George Duffield, D. D., Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Andrew H. H. Boyd, D. D., Eber M. Rollo. *Elders*—Hon. David H. Little, James B. Pinneo, Horatio Newhall, M. D.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Frederick A. Ross, D. D., George E. Pierce, D. D., Ashbel Parmelee, D. D., Conway P. Wing. *Elders*—Edward Bingham, Alfred Cobb, Charles Cooledge, M. D.

4. *Church Extension. Ministers*—N. S. S. Beman, D. D., Thornton A. Mills, John Jenkins, Harvey Curtis. *Elders*—Oliver H. Lee, Otis Allen, Charles N. Ordway.

5. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—George L. Prentiss, D. D., Joel Parker, D. D., Elias R. Fairchild, D. D., John Jenkins. *Elders*—Treadwell Ketchum, J. B. Sheffield, M. O. Halstead.

6. *Narrative. Ministers*—Charles Hawley, Isaac N. Sprague, George E. Day, John H. Zivley. *Elders*—Hon. Truman Lewis, W. Newton Bicknell, M. D., John S. Jennings.

7. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—Tertius S. Clark, Albert H. Corliss, Thomas Lippincott, William E. Holley. *Elders*—Hon. Orrin Robinson, Charles F. Tuttle, Abijah Fitch.

8. *Mileage. Elders*—Jesse W. Benedict, William Alling, Samuel M. Price. [185]

The Moderator also announced the Committees on the Synodical Records, as follows:

1. *Albany. Ministers*—Xenophon Betts, Frank F. Ellinwood. *Elder*—John B. Hall.

2. *Utica. Ministers*—William R. Palmer, Alfred Eddy. *Elder*—Samuel McAfee.

3. *Geneva. Ministers*—John W. Mears, Ebenezer Bushnell. *Elder*—Esek C. Bradford.

4. *Onondaga. Ministers*—William S. Huggins, Henry A. Rossiter. *Elder*—Benjamin W. Oakley.

5. *Susquehanna. Ministers*—Elihu Barber, Joseph T. Willett. *Elder*—Joseph Kitchell.

6. *Genesee. Ministers*—John C. Campbell, George P. Tindall. *Elder*—Benjamin W. Oakley.

7. *New York and New Jersey.* *Ministers*—Roswell Tenney, John Gerrish. *Elder*—William Cottingham.

8. *Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Baruch B. Beckwith, Richard Dunning. *Elder*—Calvin Blood.

9. *West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—William W. Williams, Edward Scofield. *Elder*—Miles W. Craig.

10. *Michigan.* *Ministers*—William H. Parks, John M. Caldwell. *Elder*—Donald Cameron.

11. *Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—Sidney Mills, George W. Warner. *Elder*—Samuel T. Bodine.

12. *Ohio.* *Ministers*—W. H. Lockwood, Lewis F. Laine. *Elder*—William S. Webb.

13. *Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—Obadiah C. Beardsley, William Waith, Jr. *Elder*—William McGibbon.

14. *Indiana.* *Ministers*—John McCampbell, Jeremiah Petrie. *Elder*—Thomas W. Turley.

15. *Wabash.* *Ministers*—Daniel C. Houghton, George Chandler. *Elder*—Hon. Samuel Jefferson.

16. *Illinois.* *Ministers*—Edwin E. Williams, Daniel Van Valkenburgh. *Elder*—Henry Willard.

17. *Peoria.* *Ministers*—Joel Wakeman, Michael F. Liebenau. *Elder*—Samuel Tappan.

18. *Iowa.* *Ministers*—William T. McElroy, Jonathan Lyons. *Elder*—Wilson L. Watkins.

19. *Missouri.* *Ministers*—Andrew G. Carothers, John B. Preston. *Elder*—William Harper.

20. *Virginia.* *Ministers*—Ezra B. Fancher, Pliny F. Sanborne. *Elder*—Edgar A. Phillips.

21. *Kentucky.* *Ministers*—Linus H. Fellows, Adamus W. Platt. *Elder*—Nathan Bouton.

22. *Tennessee.* *Ministers*—Edwin Benedict, William Aikman. *Elder*—Lorenzo Russell.

23. *West Tennessee.* *Ministers*—Marcus Ford, D. D., John M. Johnson. *Elder*—John B. Clark.

24. *Mississippi.* *Ministers*—James Boggs, Cornelius H. Taylor. *Elder*—John Donaldson. [186]

The Records of the Synods were called for, and put into the hands of the Committees appointed to examine them.

The Narratives and the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries, with several Overtures and memorials, were received, and put into the hands of the Stated Clerk, to be appropriately referred.

The Committee on the preparation of a Digest reported progress, and were continued.

The Committee appointed by the last Assembly "to estimate the probable amount that will be required to defray the traveling expenses of Commissioners and the contingent expenses of the Assembly, to assess the same in equitable proportions upon the Presbyteries, and to inform each Presbytery of its quota," reported, and presented a tabular statement of the apportionment.

The report was accepted, and the Presbyteries called to report the amounts contributed.

In connection with this report, a paper was presented from the Presbytery of Brooklyn, objecting to the action of the last Assembly in the appointment of this Committee, which was referred to the Standing Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Ordered, That, in the absence of the Treasurer, all moneys intended for the General Assembly's Fund be paid to the Committee on Mileage.

Rev. Charles C. Beaman, the Delegate from the General Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, after a short address, to which the Moderator responded, respectfully took his leave.

A communication was received from the managers of the American Bible Society, inviting the Assembly to attend a public meeting in the church of the Puritans, on Thursday, the 22d inst., at 7½ o'clock P. M.—the object of the meeting being to encourage a proposed effort to supply, without delay, all the destitute families of our country with the Bible. The invitation was accepted.

A paper in relation to missionary labor in the Valley of the Mississippi was presented, and, having been read, was referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 17th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioners and Delegate were reported, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Elder John Sherrick, of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh.
" Samuel H. Fox, " Cleveland.
" Hon. J. Scott Harrison, " Hamilton.

Rev. John Jay Dana, Delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts. [187]

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a memorial upon the subject of Psalmody, which was referred to a special *Committee*, consisting of Rev. George Duffield, D. D., Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., LL.D., Rev. William H. Parks, Rev. Eber M. Rollo, and Matthias W. Baldwin, to report during the sessions of the present Assembly.

The Assembly recommended the observance of the first Monday of January as a day of fasting and prayer for the Conversion of the World; also the last Thursday in February, as a day of prayer for Colleges.

The Assembly proceeded to determine the place for the meeting of the next General Assembly, and made choice of the city of Cleveland, Ohio. Rev. George E. Pierce, D. D., Rev. W. C. Wisner, D. D., and Elder Samuel H. Fox, were appointed a *Committee* to designate the particular church, and *to nominate* the Committee of Arrangements.

It was made the order of the day for Monday at 10 o'clock A. M., to hear reports from the Theological Seminaries.

It was made the first order of the day for Tuesday, to hear reports from the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, to be followed by the reception of communications from Corresponding Bodies.

Rev. George E. Pierce, D. D., Rev. Alfred H. Betts, and Rev. Ebenezer Bushnell, were appointed a *Committee to nominate a preacher* on Home Missions for the next Assembly.

It was made the order of the day for Tuesday, at 1 o'clock P. M., to receive the report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

The Standing Committee of the General Assembly on *Education* for the Gospel Ministry presented their annual report; which, having been read, was accepted and referred to a special *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Asa D.

Smith, D. D., Rev. George E. Day, Rev. Harvey Curtis, Hon. Arnold Naudain, M. D., and Mr. Treadwell Ketchum.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending that the Home Missionary sermon be delivered in this house next Tuesday evening; the address before the Presbyterian Historical Society, in the same place, on Wednesday evening; and that the Assembly celebrate the Lord's Supper, also in this house, on Thursday next, at 4 o'clock P. M.; the morning session of the Assembly on that day to close at 2 o'clock P. M.

The Stated Clerk, directed by the last Assembly to communicate with the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, with reference to opening a correspondence between that body and this General Assembly, made a report, which was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

Invitations were received from the governors of the Alms-House and the managers of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents, asking the Assembly to visit their respective institutions. The invitations were accepted, and Rev. Wm. Adams, D. D., Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., Mr. William P. Cook, Mr. Apollos R. [188] Wetmore and Mr. William A. Booth, were appointed a *Committee to make* the necessary *arrangements*.

Adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 19th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners and Delegate presented their credentials, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Elder Samuel Matheys, from the Presbytery of Winchester.

" Dan Niles, " " Columbus.

Rev. Wm. T. Dwight, D. D., Delegate from the General Conference of Maine.

The Assembly heard reports and statements concerning our Theological Seminaries: from the Union Theological Seminary, through Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D.; from the Auburn Theological Seminary, through Rev. George W. Warner; from the Lane Theological Seminary, through Rev. George E. Day; from the Marysville Theological Seminary, through Rev. Jonathan Lyons; and from the Blackburn Theological Seminary, through Rev. Shubael G. Spees.

A *Committee*, consisting of Rev. George W. Warner, Rev. George P. Tindall, and Elder Thomas W. Turley, was appointed *to prepare a suitable minute* upon this subject.

A *Committee*, consisting of Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. John Jenkins, and Rev. Edward C. Pritchett, was appointed *to nominate Delegates* to Corresponding Bodies.

Resolved, That the Rev. R. G. Cather, of Ireland, be invited to address the Assembly on the subject of Systematic Beneficence, at 11 o'clock on Thursday next.

Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., was appointed a *Committee to communicate* this resolution to Mr. Cather.

The Treasurer's report was received and referred to an *Auditing Committee*, consisting of Messrs. Joseph B. Sheffield and Alfred Cobb.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported the following Overture: " Is it competent for a pastor of a church, the sole ruling elder of said church being removed by death or otherwise, by and with the concurrence of said

church, to receive a member and ruling elder from another church, on certificate, with a view to his subsequent election and installation, as ruling elder, in the place of the elder deceased?" They recommended, that it be answered in the affirmative.

The report was accepted, and ordered to be docketed.

The Publication Committee of the Assembly presented their an[189]nual report, which, having been read, was accepted and referred to a special *Committee*, consisting of Rev. W. C. Wisner, D. D., Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. George Chandler, Rev. George E. Day, Rev. George W. Warner, Rev. Jonathan Lyons, Mr. Treadwell Ketchum, Mr. Matthias W. Baldwin, and Mr. Henry Van Bergen.

The Committee of the last Assembly "on the constitutional power of the Assembly over the subject of slaveholding in our churches," presented their report, which having been read,

Rev. Andrew H. H. Boyd, D. D., a member of the Committee, presented a minority report, which also was read.

The reports were accepted, and, pending their consideration, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 20th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the calling of the Roll for the remaining sessions was dispensed with.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. Lavalette Perrin, Delegate from the General Association of Connecticut, presented his credentials, and his name was entered upon the Roll.

Elder William G. Knowles, M. D., from the Presbytery of the District of Columbia, appeared without a Commission; but, as his appointment was sustained by other testimony, his name was entered upon the Roll.

The Auditing Committee reported that they had examined the accounts of the Treasurer, with the accompanying vouchers, and found them correct. The report was adopted.

The Judicial Committee reported that no business had been brought before them, and made request to be discharged, which was granted.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day. Reports were received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies, viz.: from the Rev. William W. Newell, the Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; from the Rev. George F. Wiswell, the Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; from the Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., the Delegate to the General Conference of Maine; and from Rev. O. Phelps Hoyt, the Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont.

The reports were accepted and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Assembly proceeded to hear the Delegates from Corresponding Bodies in such communications as they desired to present; when the Rev. J. Jay Dana, from the General Association of Massachusetts; the Rev. Lavalette Perrin, from the General Association of Connecticut; the Rev. Joshua W. Wellman, from the General Asso[190]ciation of New Hampshire; the Rev. R. S. Storrs, Jr., D. D., from the General Association of New York; the Rev. William T. Dwight, D. D., from the General Conference of Maine; the Rev. Charles Walker, D. D., from the General Convention of Vermont; and the Rev. Reuben Smith, from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, severally addressed the Assembly.

A communication was received from the Union of the Evangelical Churches of France; which, having been read, was referred to the Committee appointed to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

The Committee to make the necessary arrangements for visiting the Alms-House, in accordance with an invitation of its governors, reported a recommendation that Saturday next be devoted to this visit, which was adopted.

The time for the delivery of the sermon on Home Missions was changed from this to next Sabbath evening.

A communication was received from the Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., LL.D., requesting an opportunity to present a communication received by him from the Congregational Union of England and Wales, upon the subject of Peace.

The Assembly resolved to hear the Rev. S. H. Cox, D. D., LL.D., and receive the communication, this evening.

The Trustees of the Church Erection Fund made their annual report, which was read and accepted.

Resolved, That the General Assembly will now proceed to provide for the deficit reported in the Church Erection Fund, by the personal pledges of individuals present, to the amount of that deficit.

In accordance with the above resolution, the Assembly received pledges from several individuals, members, and others, to the full amount of $2900; and the fund of $100,000, for Church Erection, was thus completed.

After the announcement of this gratifying fact, the Assembly united in prayer and thanksgiving to the Great Head of the Church.

The report was referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported two memorials upon the subject of Slavery.

The Committee recommend that the consideration of these memorials be postponed, inasmuch as the report of the Committee appointed on that subject, to be considered by the Assembly at a future day, will afford an opportunity, when the parties interested in them may, if the Assembly see fit to grant it, ask for the reading of the memorials.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures returned to the Assembly a letter, addressed to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, relative to appointing a Delegate to attend the next sessions of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, which had been referred to them.

The Committee recommended that it be put upon the docket as an item of business, which the Assembly may, if it see fit, call up hereafter for consideration. The Committee judge, that the communication in its [191] present shape, without further information than what the Committee have before them, is not in a sufficiently mature condition, to justify the Committee in recommending the Assembly to appoint a Delegate to attend the next sessions of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a memorial from the Presbytery of Detroit, asking for the expression of an opinion by the Assembly, as to the duties and privileges of ecclesiastical bodies in their correspondence with each other; and also stating that the Presbytery has "regarded with pain the declaration from ecclesiastical bodies with whom the Assembly are in correspondence, that their desire, for an interchange of fraternal correspondence with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, is mainly for the purpose of expressing their dissent from the views and measures of that body, and their abhorrence of some of them." The memorialists do not designate these bodies, or the views and measures of the General Assembly referred to. The proprieties of fraternal inter-

course between ecclesiastical bodies, especially in matters referring to government and discipline, are so obvious and important that, in the judgment of your Committee, no action touching this subject is required on the part of this Assembly.

The report was adopted.

It was made the second order for the evening session to receive the report of the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

The Trustees of the Presbyterian House presented their annual report; which, having been read, was accepted and referred to the special Committee on the Report of the Presbyterian Publication Committee.

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow, at 9½ o'clock A. M., to consider the report of the Committee on "the constitutional power of the Assembly over the subject of slaveholding in our churches."

Adjourned until 7½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 20th, 7½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioner presented his credentials and his name was added to the Roll:

Rev. Henry Shedd, from the Presbytery of Franklin.

Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., LL.D., addressed the Assembly in accordance with previous appointment, and presented a communication from the Congregational Union of England and Wales, which was read, and referred to the Committee on the Nomination of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies. [192]

The Permanent Committee on Church Extension made their first annual report; which, having been read, was referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, to whom was referred the communication on Standing Committees, in order to prevent misunderstanding, and to facilitate the progress of business, recommended the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the Committees appointed at the opening of each Assembly be called Standing Committees, and those outside of the Assembly, Permanent Committees.

Resolved, That hereafter there be appointed, at the opening of each Assembly, Standing Committees on Education and Publication, to whom may be referred appropriate reports and communications.

The Committee appointed to nominate a preacher on Home Missions for the next Assembly, recommended the Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock, of the Presbytery of Buffalo, principal, and the Rev. Jacob Little, of the Presbytery of Pataskala, alternate; and their recommendation was adopted.

The Committee appointed to designate the church, and to nominate the Committee of Arrangements, for the meeting of the next Assembly, reported, recommending that the sessions be held in the first Presbyterian Church, or in such other place in Cleveland, O., as the Committee may designate; and that Rev. Samuel C. Aiken, D. D., Rev. James Eells, Rev. Joseph B. Bittinger, Rev. James Shaw, Rev. R. H. Leonard, and Messrs. George Mygatt, Truman B. Handy, John A. Foot, Joseph Perkins, Hiram Griswold, Augustus Fuller, and Joseph Parmer, be a *Committee of Arrangements.*

The report was adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 21st, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported the following order of services for the celebration of the Lord's Supper on Thursday afternoon:

1. The Moderator to preside, and the exercises to be opened with singing.

2. Prayer and reading of the Scriptures by the Rev. Alfred H. Dashiell, D. D.

3. Address by the Rev. Harvey Curtis.

4. Prayer and administration of the Bread by the Rev. Andrew H. H. Boyd, D. D.

5. Prayer and administration of the Cup by the Rev. William T. Dwight, D. D. [193]

6. Address by the Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., LL.D.

7. Hymn and Benediction by the Rev. George E. Pierce, D. D.

Also, that the distribution of the elements be committed to the following elders: Hon. William Jessup, LL.D., James H. Pinneo, Hon. William Darling, Matthias W. Baldwin, Samuel T. Bodine, Samuel Tappan, Otis Allen, and Samuel H. Fox.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz.: the consideration of the report of the Committee on "the constitutional power of the Assembly over the subject of slaveholding in our churches." Pending the discussion of this subject, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 22d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Psalmody made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the memorial of the Presbytery of Detroit, on the subject of introducing the Book of Psalms, as found in our English translation of the Bible, to be arranged agreeably to the Hebrew parallelism for the occasional use of the churches in the praise of their worshiping assemblies, present the following report:

Whereas, it is desired that the General Assembly authorize and recommend the occasional use, as the churches may see fit, of the Book of Psalms properly arranged agreeably to our common English translation, as matter for the praise of the churches in their worshiping assemblies;

And whereas, some books for this purpose have been prepared by different persons and musical teachers, which do not fully meet the wants and wishes expressed on this subject, the indiscriminate use of which may lead to results not desirable; therefore

Resolved, That the General Assembly approve of and recommend the object proposed.

Resolved, also, That the General Assembly deem it very desirable, and recommend, that our congregations generally should feel it to be both their duty and their privilege, to take part in the public praise of God in vocal song by congregational singing.

Resolved, further, That a Committee be appointed to prepare for and secure, as soon as practicable, the publication, without expense to the Gen-

eral Assembly, of a selection of the Psalms of David, in a separate book, for the use of the churches, arranged and adapted to meet the object contemplated by the memorial.

Resolved, finally, That the said Committee be directed to prepare, at as early a period as practicable, an arrangement of the entire book [194] of Psalms upon the plan proposed by the memorial, to be reported to a future General Assembly.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Third Presbytery of New York, by Overture, inquire what order it would be proper for them to take with reference to a member who has been excluded from Christian fellowship by a Ministerial Association under the patronage of the A. B. C. F. M., and dismissed from the service of that Board for immorality, and with whom a regular process of discipline by the Presbytery is difficult, on account of his distance from them and from any ecclesiastical body of our connection. The General Assembly reply, that the ecclesiastical relations of the individual in question evidently remain unchanged by the action of persons not organized under any distinct form of government, and especially not guided by the principles of discipline to which he was subject; and the only correct course for the Presbytery to take, if they regard him as a proper subject of discipline, is to pursue precisely the forms of process given in our Book of Discipline, however difficult or protracted the actual process may be.

The Committee on Mileage presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Mileage report to the Assembly,

That the total amount received by the Committee is $\$4181\frac{93}{100}$, viz.:

From Presbyteries which paid in full the amount assessed to them	$3090.08
From Presbyteries which paid only in part	1002.43
From Presbyteries which designated the Contingent Fund as the special object of such payment	89.42
Making the total	$4181.93

That the total amount of the traveling and incidental expenses, to and from the Assembly, of those Commissioners who desire to participate in the fund, is $\$4616\frac{15}{100}$, viz.:

Of the Commissioners from Presbyteries which have paid in full,	$4258.38
Of those from Presbyteries which have paid only in part	260.40
Of those from Presbyteries which have paid only to the Contingent Fund	60.00
Of those from Presbyteries which have not paid anything towards either	37.37
Making the total	$4616.15

Your Committee also state, that the Stated Clerk has informed them that some of the last-named Presbyteries have paid some amounts to him for the Contingent Fund.

Your Committee further state, that the Presbytery of Hudson has exceeded the amount assessed to that Presbytery by almost one half. That the Presbyteries of Niagara, Wilmington, and Philadelphia, 4th, [195] collected the full amount assessed, (Niagara, even more,) and, acting upon the basis that all the Presbyteries would pay in full, and consequently that the

expenses of their Commissioners would be paid in full, they deducted these from the expenses of their Commissioners to and from the Assembly, and paid to your Committee the balance. The assessment to Philadelphia, 4th, was $250, the largest on the roll; and the total expenses of the four Commissioners from that Presbytery, $40. The Presbytery of Buffalo paid the full amount of their assessment upon the express condition that the Commissioners from that Presbytery should receive payment of their expenses in full. The assessment paid was $150, and their expenses for four Commissioners, $78. Your Committee have not included these in their report of expenses, but have deducted this amount from the $150 paid by that Presbytery, and have entered the balance, holding the $78 as a special deposit for those Commissioners.

The following resolutions, in respect to the distribution of the Fund, were then adopted:

1. That the amount in the hands of the Committee on Mileage, received by them for the Contingent Fund, be paid to the Stated Clerk for that Fund; and in addition thereto the sum of $642\frac{75}{100}$ to be taken *pro rata* from the amount received from Presbyteries who have paid in full, and the amount received from Presbyteries who have paid only in part.

2. That the balance then remaining, of the amount received from Presbyteries which have paid in full, be applied towards the payment of the expenses of the Commissioners from such Presbyteries *pro rata*, and the deficiency ascertained.

3. That the residue of the Fund then remaining in the hands of the Mileage Committee, being the amount received from those Presbyteries who have paid only in part, be applied *pro rata* to the payment of the deficiency above mentioned, and the expenses of the Commissioners from those Presbyteries which have paid only in part.

4. That the application for payment of expenses, by those Commissioners who are from Presbyteries which have either not paid any part of their assessment, or only paid to the Contingent Fund, be refused.

The Assembly entered upon the consideration of the unfinished business, viz.: the report of the Committee on the constitutional power of the Assembly over the subject of slaveholding in our churches, which was continued until 11 o'clock A. M.; when, in accordance with a previous order, Mr. John Gulliver, the secretary of the American Systematic Beneficence Society, and the Rev. R. G. Cather, of Ireland, addressed the Assembly.

Whereupon it was

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly tenders its fraternal greetings to the Rev. R. G. Cather, of the Wesleyan Conference of Ireland, and expresses its satisfaction at the report, now presented, of the successful efforts which have been made towards an enlarged Christian beneficence on the part of the churches in that country, as well as of those in England and Scotland.

Resolved, 2. That the subject of systematic beneficence be earnestly commended to the attention and action of our churches. [196]

3. That "The American Systematic Beneficence" Society, already organized in Philadelphia, be commended to the co-operation of all our Synods, Presbyteries, and sessions.

The General Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on the constitutional power of the Assembly over the subject of slaveholding in our churches, and continued its discussion until 2½ o'clock P. M., when they adjourned until 4 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 22d, 4 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, agreeably to previous arrangement, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and, in union with a number of Christians, who accepted the invitation to participate with them, united in the celebration of this ordinance.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 23d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved.

The Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

General Association of Massachusetts—Rev. William R. Dewitt, D. D., principal; and Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., alternate.

General Association of Connecticut—Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., principal; and Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., alternate.

General Association of New Hampshire—Rev. Elias R. Fairchild, D. D., principal; and Rev. Baruch B. Beckwith, alternate.

General Conference of Maine—Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., principal; and Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., alternate.

General Convention of Vermont—Rev. Eber M. Rollo, principal; and Rev. Andrew G. Carothers, alternate.

General Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island—Rev. Daniel W. Poor, principal; and Rev. George Duffield, Jr., alternate.

Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin—Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., principal; and Rev. Samuel H. Hall, alternate.

Synod of the German Reformed Church—Rev. George W. Warner, principal; and Rev. John W. Mears, alternate.

General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church—Rev. Thornton A. Mills, principal; and Rev. William H. Parks, alternate. [197]

General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States—Rev. David H. Riddle, D. D., principal; and Rev. Henry A. Rowland, D. D., alternate.

Union of the Evangelical Churches in France—Rev. R. S. Storrs Dickinson.

The whole matter of *Correspondence* between this General Assembly and the General Association of New York was referred to a special *Committee*, consisting of Hon. William Jessup, LL.D., Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., LL.D., Rev. T. A. Mills, Rev. A. H. H. Boyd, D. D., Rev. William Adams, D. D.

The following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted:

As the American Bible Society *Resolved*, at its late anniversary, that, with divine aid and the co-operation of its friends, it would endeavor, as early as practicable, to supply every destitute family in our country with the Bible,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That this General Assembly now convened have great satisfaction in expressing their warm approval of the undertaking; and to secure its accomplishment would not only pledge their own exertions, but invite the pastors and churches here represented to lend their assistance in carrying it forward; particularly in their connection, respectively, with the local auxiliaries, the main channels through which the Sacred Word is to reach those who are without it.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave has been given

to Rev. Marcus Ford, D. D., Rev. Tertius S. Clark, and the Elders, Abner Loveland, Isaac C. Stevens, Henry B. Moore, M. D., Abijah Fitch, and Hon. J. Scott Harrison.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, viz., the report of the Committee on the constitutional power of the Assembly over the subject of slaveholding in our churches. The report of the Committee was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed by the last General Assembly "to report to the next Assembly on the constitutional power of the Assembly over the subject of slaveholding in our churches," respectfully submit the following report:

It should be observed, at the outset, that the Committee are instructed to report on but a single point, that of "power." The question before them is not what it may be wise for the Assembly to do. Not what, in a particular case, or in general,—authority being presupposed—would be for edification. But what is the power of the Assembly in the matter of slaveholding? This is a question which can be determined only by reference to our Form of Government. The "power" on which we are to report is fitly designated as "constitutional." We are a constitutional body. No judicatory of our Church has any legitimate functions, save those which, either expressly or by clear implication, the Constitution confers. Emphatically should this be said of our highest judicatory, in view of the tendency of human nature, in ecclesiastical connections, to a grasping and tyrannous centralism. The one-man power at Rome is hardly more abhorrent to the genius of Presbyterianism, than would be a many-[198]headed papacy under the name and form of a General Assembly. It should be remembered, also, that as a visible Church, or particular denomination, our Constitution is the sole bond of our union. We are united, externally and formally, only as that unites us. That, of course, must measure and limit the responsibility for each other which grows out of our union. No one part of our body can be held answerable for the evils in another, which, by the terms of our confederation, it has no power to reach.

The Committee would further remark, that they do not feel themselves called on to present their views of the moral character of Slavery, or to re-argue the question whether slaveholding is, in any case, a disciplinable offence. They do not suppose that they were appointed with reference to that question. It was thoroughly discussed in the Assembly of 1850, and the conclusion reached, "that the holding of our fellow-men in the condition of Slavery, except in those cases where it is unavoidable by the laws of the State, the obligations of guardianship, or the demands of humanity, is an offence in the proper import of that term, as used in the Book of Discipline, Chapter I., section 3, and should be regarded and treated in the same manner as other offences." This opinion has been re-affirmed, either expressly or virtually, by nearly every succeeding Assembly, including the last. Nor do the Committee anticipate, that any considerable portion of the present Assembly will either stand in doubt concerning it, or incline, in the least, to a retrograde course. The doctrine set forth at Detroit—set forth simply as a doctrine, and not as a law or judicial decision—is yet, they judge, the settled view of our Church. Taking this for granted, their sole concern is with the relation of the Assembly to the matter. To determine this point, we have only to ascertain what are the constitutional powers of that body, in respect to disciplinable offences generally.

Its functions, in this regard, we judge, are of two kinds, advisory and authoritative; and between these there should be careful discrimination. The advisory function of the Assembly is of very wide scope. According to

the Form of Government, Chapter XII., section 5, they have the power of "reproving, warning, or bearing testimony against error in doctrine or immorality in practice, in any Church, Presbytery, or Synod," and of "recommending . . . . reformation of manners . . . . through all the churches under their care." This function of reproof may be exercised in reference to any evil grave enough to call for it. Nor is it an unimportant function. The testimony of such a body as the General Assembly, especially if unanimously given, must needs have great weight. It has, indeed, only a moral influence. It is not authoritative. It binds no other body, not even a succeeding Assembly. It binds no individual, yet cases are not unfrequent in which a moral influence of this sort, if not the only one that could be employed, is the most efficacious. It has greater power over the conscience, often, than the most stringent exercise of bare authority.

As it respects the authoritative function of the Assembly, or its power [199] of discipline, that, we judge, can only be exercised in the forms and methods marked out in the Constitution. It is by no means co-extensive with its testifying power. As counsel or testimony has only a moral force, the manner in which it shall be put forth is wisely left to the discretion of the Assembly. Not so with discipline. Concerning, as it does, the dearest rights and interests, it is of the highest importance that the mode of its exercise should be particularly prescribed. So we find it in our Form of Government. Every step is distinctly set forth, and the greatest care taken to guard all concerned against mistake and abuse. Nor is any exception made as to any particular class of offences. If slaveholding is in any case to be dealt with as a disciplinable matter, it must be in some one of the ways explicitly authorized in the Constitution.

The methods in which the authoritative action of the Assembly may be invoked, as appears from the seventh chapter of the Book of Discipline, are four: By reference, by appeal, by complaint, and—to state that last, which, in the Book of Discipline, comes first—by general review and control. The three processes first named, do not, of course, originate in the Assembly. Their inception is in a lower judicatory. In one or another of them, it is presumed, most of the matters which call for disciplinary action on the part of the highest judicatory, will, in due time, come before it. There is, however, a possibility of neglect in this regard, and for such a contingency, our Constitution—framed with a wisdom best appreciated by those who have most thoroughly studied it—has made a specific provision. This provision is found in the section on "General Review and Control." See Book of Discipline, Chapter VII., section 1.

Under this section, there are two methods in which any disciplinable offence—and slaveholding, of course, when it assumes that character—may be reached authoritatively by the Assembly. (1.) It may appear from the Records of a Synod, as submitted for inspection, that there has been some wrong-doing or culpable omission in the matter. A case may have been incorrectly decided, or refused a hearing. Or it may be obvious that the Records of some Presbytery have not, according to the 2d and 3d articles of this section, been properly disposed of. Or it may appear that the duty enjoined in the 6th article, that of citing a lower judicatory in a given contingency, has been entirely neglected. In cases of this sort, there may be "animadversion or censure," or, according to article 3, the Synod "may be required to review and correct its proceedings." (2.) "Any important delinquency, or grossly unconstitutional proceedings," not apparent from the Records, may yet be charged against a Synod "by common fame." It may be reported, for example, that, through some neglect of the Synod, "heretical

opinions or corrupt practices" are "allowed to gain ground," or that "offenders of a very gross character" are "suffered to escape." See articles 5 and 6, of this same section. In such case, provided the rumor is of the character specified in the Book of Discipline, Chapter III., section 5—for a process against a Synod should certainly not be commenced on slighter grounds than against an individual—the Assembly "is to cite the judicatory alleged to have [200] offended, to appear at a specified time and place, and to show what it has done, or failed to do, in the case in question; after which the judicatory, thus issuing the citation, shall remit the whole matter to the delinquent judicatory, with a direction to take it up, and dispose of it in a constitutional manner, or stay all further proceedings in the case, as circumstances may require." See Book of Discipline, Chapter VII., section 1, article 6.

In view of the aforenamed, and other provisions of our Form of Government, touching the authority of the Assembly, two things are to be carefully noted.

1. It has no power to commence a process of discipline with an individual offended. That, by a just and wise arrangement, belongs to the session in the case of a layman, to the Presbytery in the case of a minister. The disciplinary function of the Assembly, as to individuals, is simply appellate and revisionary. It is not the court of first, but of last resort.

2. In the way of "general review and control," it can reach directly only the judicatory next below—that is, the Synod. See Book of Discipline, Chapter VII., section 1, article 6. Indirectly, indeed, the doings of other bodies may be involved. A session may grossly neglect discipline, for example, and the recorded indication, or the common fame thereof, may not be properly heeded by the Presbytery. The fruit of this heedlessness, or the evidence of it in the Presbyterial records, may call forth no appropriate action on the part of the Synod: and this may be brought, by the Synodical Records, or by general rumor, to the knowledge of the Assembly. On the ground of either the record or the rumor, the Assembly may cite the Synod before them. Thus, mediately, may even a session be reached, but not directly.

Such are the metes and bounds which our Form of Government has prescribed, and which the Assembly may not overpass. It is quite possible that, in connection with them, offenders of various sorts may sometimes escape. To a human administration, of however divine a system, imperfection always pertains. Our Book of Discipline, indeed, (Chapter III., section 3,) distinctly recognizes a class of cases in which, "however grievous it may be to the pious to see an unworthy member in the Church, it is proper to wait until God, in his righteous providence, shall give further light." Waiting may be rendered necessary by a lack of fidelity on the part of the lower judicatories, as well as by a lack of evidence. We speak of it, of course, not as an actual, but only as a supposable case. And it may seem to some a great evil, that the General Assembly is not invested with larger powers. Yet it would be a greater evil, to allow any departure from the carefully devised processes of discipline set forth in the Constitution. To permit the Assembly to adopt, at its pleasure, new processes—to suit its own powers to real or fancied exigencies—would not only invest it with legislative functions, but would virtually annul the Constitution, and transform the highest judicatory of the Church into an overshadowing ecclesiastical despotism.

It has, indeed, been urged—though we see not with what reason—[201] that the advisory function of the Assembly, or its power of bearing testimony, implies the authority necessary to enforce that testimony. Is there,

then, no just and salutary distinction between persuasion and compulsion? Must the two be ever conjoined? Are there no cases in which a simple moral power may, in the nature of things, be most potent? Must the Assembly utter no counsels which are not to be interpreted as mandatory and coercive? If they may enforce all their counsels, how are they to do it? By processes which they themselves devise—extra constitutional processes? Or are they to be held to the provisions of the Book of Discipline? They have, it is true, the right, according to the Form of Government, Chapter XII., section 5, of "attempting," as well as "recommending, reformation of manners." But the attempt must be made, if discipline is to be involved, only in the method prescribed in the Constitution. To all desirable ends, the Committee believe that method will be found adequate; especially as connected with that testifying and reproving function so often exercised in time past, and which, by a body like the Assembly, can never be wisely exercised but with salutary results.

Albert Barnes,
Asa D. Smith,
Wm. Jessup,
Augustus P. Hascall.

The Assembly also resolved to put upon its Minutes the report of the minority of the same Committee, which is as follows:

The undersigned, a member of the Committee appointed by the last General Assembly "to report to this Assembly on the constitutional power of the Assembly over the subject of slaveholding in our churches," being constrained to differ from the majority of the Committee, begs leave to submit the following report:

The undersigned takes pleasure in saying, that the most of the views expressed in the majority report meet his concurrence. The principles therein stated, by which the General Assembly is to be governed in its action with reference to what are recognized as offences by the Constitution of the Church, are clearly presented in the Book of Discipline. The process is the same in regard to all offences stated to be such in the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church. The General Assembly has the power as an advisory body, of reforming, warning, or bearing testimony against any error in doctrine or immorality in practice it pleases, whether that error or immorality is referred to in our Confession or not; but that reproof and testimony can have no authoritative or binding effect upon the lower judicatories. As a judicial body, the General Assembly has the power to decide all cases of offence brought before it for adjudication, whether by reference, or complaint, or appeal from a lower judicatory. As a court of review, it can require Synods to review and correct any proceedings in regard to offences that may have been irregular, or not in accordance with the Constitution. In the same capacity it can cite before its bar a Synod to answer to the charge of allowing "heretical opinions or corrupt practices to gain ground," [202] provided common rumor, such as is specified in Chap. III., sec. 5, of the Book of Discipline, charges the Synod with such delinquency. The Assembly cannot originate discipline, nor can it act directly upon any other judicatory than the Synod. But if the Synod omits to require of a Presbytery to see that the session takes cognizance of alleged "heretical opinions or corrupt practices," then the Assembly can cite the Synod to appear before it to answer to the charge of delinquency in duty; "after which the whole matter is to be referred to the Synod, with the direction to take it up, and dispose of it in a constitutional manner, or stay all further proceedings in the

case, as circumstances may require." Chapter VII., section 1, article 6. The lower judicatory would be bound to consider the subject ordered by the Assembly to be investigated, but the issue of the case is still left with the lower judicatory. If the Synod should judge, after considering the subject, that no further action on the part of the Presbytery or session is called for, it has the constitutional right to stay all further proceedings. It has discharged its obligation to the Assembly when it has taken up the subject for consideration. The Assembly has gone to the extent of its power, when it has directed the lower judicatory to consider it. The final issue of the matter, according to the Constitution of the Church, is now left to the lower courts.

These constitutional principles, in regard to offences, are, in substance, recognized in the report of the majority of the Committee. In the views expressed by the majority on this branch of the subject, the undersigned cordially concurs.

The undersigned likewise concurs in the sentiment, which he understands is implied in the second resolution adopted by the Assembly in Detroit, and which he has the assurance is the opinion of the majority of the Committee, that slaveholding is not a sin *per se;* and cannot, therefore, on this ground, be made a subject of discipline. The undersigned also readily admits that slaveholding, like every other relation in life, is a sin in the sight of God, when it is inconsistent with the demands of humanity. In his view of the subject, the exceptions stated in the second resolution, adopted in Detroit, will cover at least the vast majority of cases, if not every case, of slaveholding in the land. He considers that, in the present condition of the colored population in the slaveholding States, the law of love and the obligations of guardianship demand, that the relation of master and servant should exist, until some scheme, in the providence of God, is devised, by which the white and colored population can be separated, and the latter be, not merely in name, but actually, invested with all the rights and privileges of freemen. The undersigned, therefore, does not dissent from the sentiment implied in the Detroit resolutions, and in the report of the majority of the Committee, that slaveholding is a sin in the sight of God, if it exists in violation of the obligations of guardianship, or of the demands of humanity.

The ground of the undersigned's objections to the Detroit resolutions, and to their indorsement by the majority of the Committee is two-fold. [203]

1. Because, in his view, neither the General Assembly, nor any other court of the Church, has the power to regard and treat that as an offence, in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline, which is not specifically stated to be such in the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church.

2. Because the interpretation of the Constitution is a judicial act; and, inasmuch as the Assembly can exercise its judicial power, in regard to offences, only with reference to a case brought before it from a lower court by reference, complaint, or appeal, or as a court of review, and as the Assembly at Detroit was not called upon to decide a judicial case, or to act as a court of review, that body transcended its power, when it declared slaveholding to be in certain circumstances an offence, in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline.

In proof of the first position, it may be observed, that it is a principle clearly recognized, both in ecclesiastical and civil governments, that a court can only exercise the powers which are specifically granted to it by the Constitution. In legislative bodies, powers of a general nature may exist.

This must, of necessity, be the case. It must be left discretionary with the body to determine how a general power may be exercised. No constitution can provide for every contingency that may arise, and that may require the exercise of legislative authority. Hence, powers of a general nature are, for the most part, granted to legislative bodies. It is not so, however, with the judiciary. Its powers are specifically mentioned. They are never of a general nature. The offences over which the court is to exercise authority, and the penalty to be inflicted, in the event of their commission, are distinctly stated. If the legislative authority has failed to provide for certain offences that may exist in a community, its neglect cannot invest the court with the right, under the general power of interpreting the Constitution, to declare an act an offence which is not distinctly exhibited as such, either in the Constitution or laws of the State. However desirable it may be to punish an individual for what the community may regard as an offence, he cannot be arraigned by the court, so long as the Legislature does not interpose and provide by enactment for the particular offence. The court would be regarded as guilty of a gross assumption of power, and as taking into its hands what belongs to the legislative department of government, if it should condemn as an offence what neither the Constitution nor the laws so declare. Its province is to interpret the Constitution and laws; but in doing so it cannot go beyond their literal import. It cannot, in virtue of its constructive power, authoritatively declare that to be an offence, under any circumstances, to which neither the Constitution nor the laws of the State make the slightest allusion.

The application of these general remarks to the subject under consideration is obvious. It will be conceded, that the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church possesses no legislative power, in the proper acceptance of that term. It cannot make laws which are binding upon the consciences of the members of the Church. It will also be [204] admitted, that the Confession of Faith nowhere directly alludes to slaveholding as an offence. The subject is not referred to in any part of the book. With these concessions, it may be asked, on what ground can the General Assembly claim the power to pronounce slaveholding, under any circumstances, an offence in the sense in which that term is used in the Book of Discipline? Can this, the highest court of the Church, authoritatively pronounce any thing an offence it pleases, when not a word is said upon the subject in the Confession of Faith?

The second resolution passed by the Assembly at Detroit, and indorsed by a majority of the Committee, implies that the Assembly has this power; and in confirmation of this opinion it is urged: 1. That the Book of Discipline gives only a general definition of the word offence, leaving it to the Assembly, as the highest court of the Church, to determine what acts come under this definition. It is said, that is a constitutional question, to be decided by the Assembly. Does the word offence include slaveholding in any case; and if so, in what? In reply, the undersigned would remark, that, whilst it is true that the Book of Discipline gives only a general definition of the word offence, (and how could it be otherwise?) the standards of the Church do not leave it to the judicatories to decide what particular acts come under this definition. It will not be pretended that the Confession of Faith directly confers such powers upon the judicatories of the Church. It is wholly inferential. In the view of the undersigned, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, which are a part of our standards, and are as obligatory as any other, were designed to be expositions of what, in the judgment of the Church, constitute truth and error. It is true, the Assembly has the power

to determine the import of the words involved in the general definition of offence, as given in the Book of Discipline. But it is a totally distinct question, whether it has the power to apply that definition to particular cases. The former is a power given to the Assembly as a court. The latter it possesses only so far as the standards of the Church designate particular acts as offences. The Book of Discipline gives the following definition of an offence: "An offence is any thing, in the principles or practice of a church member, which is contrary to the Word of God, and which, if it be not in its own nature sinful, may tempt others to sin, or mar their spiritual edification." If this language is to be taken without limitation, it is evident there is no relation in life which may not be considered an offence, in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline. The relation of husband and wife, of parent and child, and of master and servant in the free States, is found oftentimes to exist, in circumstances in which those sustaining it are tempted to sin, and are daily conscious that it "mars their spiritual edification." Are we, therefore, to infer, that those who sustain these relations, under such circumstances, are chargeable with an offence, in the sense in which that term is used in the Book of Discipline? Or does it belong to any court of the Church to determine whether these relations, existing in such circumstances, are an offence? Surely not. And yet, if this general definition gives to the General Assembly the power [205] to declare slaveholding an offence, because in some instances the relation may tempt to sin, there is no conceivable reason why the same may not be predicated of every relation in life. In this connection, however, it is important to observe, that, in order to ascertain what are the principles and practices of church-members which are contrary to the Word of God, or which, though not in their own nature sinful, may tempt others to sin, we are directed in the section in the Book of Discipline immediately following the one containing the definition of an offence to look—where? To the General Assembly? Not at all. But to the Scriptures, and the regulations and practice of the Church. "Nothing, therefore, it is said, ought to be considered an offence, which cannot be proved to be such from Scripture, or from the regulations and practice of the Church, founded on Scripture." And who are to determine what are the teachings of Scripture in regard to what may be charged as offences, in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline? Is it left to every session, or Presbytery, or Synod, or General Assembly, to decide what the Scriptures teach on the subject of offences? Or was the Confession of Faith, including the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, and that alone, designed to be an exposition of what the Presbyterian Church regarded as taught in the Word of God on this subject? The undersigned considers the latter view the only one that can be reconciled with the spirit of our Constitution.

2. But it may be said that, according to the Constitution, "To the General Assembly belongs the power of deciding in all controversies respecting doctrine and discipline; of reproving, warning, or bearing testimony against error in doctrine, or immorality in practice, in any church, Presbytery, or Synod, and of superintending the concerns of the whole Church." Sec. 5, Ch. XII., F. of G. From this language it is inferred that, if the General Assembly regard slaveholding in certain cases "an immorality in practice," it has the power to declare it to be an offence in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline. The undersigned cannot admit the justice of this inference. It doubtless belongs to the Assembly to decide all controversies respecting doctrine and practice, and of superintending the concerns of the whole Church. But the question is, how is the Assembly to

exercise its power in this respect? This section does not answer the question. We learn, however, from other parts of the Constitution, that the mode in which this power is to be exercised is distinctly specified;—so that it is not left to the Assembly to determine, either what is an error in doctrine, or an immorality in practice, or by what method it shall decide controversies respecting doctrine and practice, and superintend the concerns of the whole Church. The Assembly, like every other judicatory of the Church, in exercising the authority with which it has been intrusted, is to be guided by the express provisions of the Constitution. Its power to decide controversies respecting doctrine and practice, and to bear testimony against what it may consider an error in doctrine or an immorality in practice, does not involve the right to regard that as heresy, or an offence, which is not condemned as such by the standards of the Church. If such pow[206]er belongs to the Assembly, who is secure from the accusation of heresy, or immorality in practice? The opinion of the Assembly, instead of the Confession of Faith, then becomes the standard of orthodoxy and morality. And as the Assembly is a delegated body, and is generally composed of different members at each successive meeting, there may be as many opposite expressions of opinions as there are meetings of the body. What one Assembly would declare "an error in doctrine and immorality in practice," another might regard as truth, and free from the charge of immorality. In this age of progress and wild fanaticism, theories and practices might be authoritatively announced to the Assembly as essential to truth and virtue, which the greater part of evangelical Christians would consider pernicious errors, and most immoral in their tendency. With such power granted to it, nothing else would be wanting to invest the Assembly with all the attributes of an oligarchy, as supreme in its control of the ministers and members of the Church, and possessed of power as tyrannical, as that which ever distinguished an ecclesiastical council of Rome! With such a power, the Assembly might disregard the plain provision of the Constitution, making it imperative to send down Overtures to the Presbyteries for their adoption, before any change in that instrument can be effected. Under a general power of interpreting the Constitution, it would virtually be enacting a law respecting errors in doctrine and practice, when confessedly no allusion is made to either in the Confession of Faith, and when the Presbyteries, according to the plain language of the Constitution, are the only law-making power known to the Presbyterian Church. Surely, then, this interpretation of this section of the Form of Government is incorrect. The undersigned understands it, as giving to the General Assembly the power to decide controversies, respecting what the standards of the Church expressly declare to be errors in doctrine and immoralities in practice. And if the Assembly bears its testimony against what it may consider as heresy or sin, but to which our standards make no allusion, it must be in virtue of its advisory power. But that error in doctrine or immorality in practice, whether real or imaginary, cannot be regarded as heresy or an offence, in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline. In order to this, we repeat, it must be distinctly condemned as such in the standards of the Church; otherwise there is no security for any minister or member of the Church, against the precipitate or unauthorized action of the highest judicatory of the Church.

The undersigned, therefore, dissents from the action of the Assembly at Detroit on the subject of slaveholding, which is indorsed by a majority of the Committee, because slaveholding is not alluded to in the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church, and for this reason the relation itself be-

tween master and servant cannot be an offence, whatever may be the circumstances in which it exists, in the sense in which that term is used in the Book of Discipline.

It may be said, however, that although slaveholding, existing in certain circumstances, is not directly prohibited in the standards of the Church, yet oppression is distinctly stated to be a violation of the [207] eighth commandment, and as slaveholding involves oppression, it is an offence in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline, and therefore can be made a subject of discipline.

The undersigned readily admits, that, if slaveholding and oppression are synonymous terms—if, according to the obvious, well-understood, and established meaning of the term oppression, it enters essentially into slaveholding, so that the latter cannot exist without it, then every case of slaveholding on the part of the members of the Presbyterian Church is an offence in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline. For, although the term slaveholding may not be used, still if oppression is a synonymous word, according to the acknowledged rules of interpreting language, then the thing—the relation itself—is directly prohibited; and, according to the principle we have exhibited, an individual sustaining this relation may be prosecuted before the proper judicatory for oppression. As the offence must be specifically stated, oppression is the sin for which he must be disciplined.

The undersigned would observe, in regard to this position, that, however it may be with those who believe that slaveholding is a sin in itself, no advocate of the Detroit resolutions can conscientiously base the power of the General Assembly of the Church to make slaveholding a matter for discipline, on the ground, either that oppression and slaveholding are synonymous terms, or that the former is necessarily involved in the latter. The action at Detroit implies that there are cases of slaveholding which are not an offence, either in the sight of God or of man. Oppression, however, is always a sin. It is as much a sin *per se* as blasphemy or idolatry. No circumstances in which it is practised can justify it. It does not enter, therefore, essentially into slaveholding; and hence it follows that slaveholding cannot, on this ground, be made a subject of discipline by any court of the Church. But, admitting that slaveholding cannot be made a subject of discipline, because it is synonymous with oppression, or necessarily implies it, it may be asked—did not the Presbyterian Church in the United States, when it adopted the Confession of Faith as its standard, intend to include slaveholding under the term oppression, so that it can be the subject of discipline if the court of the Church, to which is intrusted the power to try offences, should think proper to regard it in the same light? The undersigned admits, that, if it can be proved by documentary evidence, such as cannot be questioned, that, when the Confession of Faith was adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, slaveholding in any case was intended to be included under the term oppression, then slaveholding exists under the circumstances specified, and the individual sustaining the relation may be prosecuted under the charge of oppression. It is proper to judge of the import of the terms of the Constitution by the manifest intent of its framers, or of those who first adopted it. The undersigned then would ask, where is the evidence that the first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, or that the Synod preceding the first General Assembly designed to include slaveholding under the term oppression, when they adopted [208] the Confession of Faith as their standard? So far from such evidence being on record, the circumstances connected with the formation

of the first General Assembly, and the history of the Synod preceding it, would lead to the conclusion that those judicatories could not have understood the term oppression to include slaveholding. When the General Assembly was first organized, twelve out of the thirteen States were slaveholding States. A considerable portion of the members of the Assembly represented churches existing in those States; and it is not an unreasonable supposition that some of the members of that body were slaveholders. Can it be possible then that they intended to include slaveholding—the mere relation of master and slave—under the term oppression; or to intimate that the relation itself, existing under any circumstances, could be a bar to Christian communion, and could be a subject of discipline? The undersigned is persuaded, that, if such an idea had been entertained and expressed, the General Assembly would not have been organized in 1789. He is constrained, therefore, to believe that no one is justified in inferring, from the use of the term oppression, the right of any judicatory of the Church to regard slaveholding, in any case, an offence in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline. In denying to the General Assembly the power to regard slaveholding, in any case, an offence in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline, it is proper to observe, that we concede that the abuses of this relation, like those of every other relation in life, when brought before the Assembly in the way prescribed by the Constitution, may be treated as offences in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline. Cruelty, correcting inferiors unduly, withholding from them what is necessary to subsistence and comfort, and disregarding the spiritual interests of those committed to our care, are sins prohibited in the standards of the Presbyterian Church; and may, therefore, be made subjects of discipline, whether they exist in connection with slaveholding, or the relation of husband and wife, of parent and child, or of master and apprentice. The undersigned considers, that there is an obvious distinction between slaveholding and the evils incident to the relation; and that, whilst the latter, being prohibited in the standards of the Church, may be the subject of discipline, the former, not being referred to in the Confession of Faith, cannot be treated as an offence in any case. The master, to whom a child is bound as an apprentice, may treat him cruelly; and, if he is a member of the Church, he may be disciplined by the church session for cruelty. But who would say that he is liable to the discipline of the Church for sustaining the relation itself? The husband and parent may be chargeable before a church judicatory, for cruel treatment towards his wife and children. But can a lawful marriage and parental relation exist, in any circumstances that would render the individual subject to discipline for sustaining the relation? There may be circumstances, when individuals would commit sin in the sight of God by entering into the marriage relation. But the church judicatory can take cognizance only of the abuses of the relation, and not of the relation itself. [209]

In referring to these various relations in life, the undersigned would not be understood as placing slaveholding upon an equal footing with them in every respect. His object is to illustrate a principle that he considers vital to the question under consideration, to wit: that, while a delinquency in performing the duties arising from the relation of master and servant, and which are designated in the standards of the Church, may render a slaveholder liable to the discipline of the Church, he cannot, under any circumstances, be disciplined for sustaining the relation itself. The essential idea of slaveholding is, that one individual is invested with the right of exercising legal power over the service of another without his consent; or, to express

the sentiment in the language of a distinguished author of our Church, it is "the exacting of personal services without consent." It is a relation established by the laws of the land, and is recognized in the Word of God as existing among the members of the Church under the Old Testament dispensation, and among those whom the apostles admitted into the Christian Church. It is implied, in the resolutions passed by the Assembly at Detroit, that the relation in itself is not sinful. It may be abused, and, like other innocent relations in life, it may be entered into through improper motives, which may render the individual criminal in the sight of God. If the master abuses his authority by a cruel treatment of his servants, he is as subject to the discipline of the Church, as is the husband for the cruel treatment of his wife, or the parent for unmerciful conduct towards his child. In the view of the undersigned, it was in consequence of overlooking this distinction between a relation that is confessedly innocent in itself, and the wicked abuses of that relation, that the Assembly at Detroit was led to declare slaveholding, in certain circumstances, an offence in the sense in which that term is used in the Book of Discipline. Had the Assembly declared that the abuses of the slaveholding relation—such as may exist in other relations in life, and not the relation itself—was an offence in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline, whilst the undersigned would consider the mode in which the declaration was made irregular, the sentiment itself would meet his concurrence. He recognizes the right of the lower judicatories, to institute discipline against a slaveholder for cruelty towards his slaves; and the right of the General Assembly to issue a judicial case involving the charge of cruelty, brought regularly before it, or upon the basis of common rumor. If a Synod neglects to enjoin upon its Presbyteries, to institute inquiry as to cruelties alleged to be practised by its members, it can be cited to appear before the Assembly to answer to the charge of delinquency; and the Assembly, if they think proper to do so, can enjoin upon the Synod to consider the subject, and to issue it as, in the view of the Synod, circumstances may require. This, in the judgment of the undersigned, is the extent of the power conferred by the Constitution upon the Assembly in reference to slaveholding, and to other innocent relations in life. The abuses of the relation may be treated as offences, when the charge is brought before the Assembly in the way prescribed by the Constitution, but not the relation itself. [210]

The second objection to the resolutions passed by the Assembly at Detroit (to which the undersigned would briefly advert) is, that the interpretation of the Constitution is a judicial act; and, inasmuch as the Assembly can exercise its judicial power with respect to offences only when a case is brought before it from a lower court, by reference, complaint, or appeal, or as a court of review—and as the Assembly at Detroit was not called upon to decide a judicial case, or to act as a court of review, that body transcended its power, when it declared slaveholding, in certain cases, to be an offence, in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline. That the interpretation of the Constitution by a court of the Church is a judicial act will not be questioned; for a body possessing both advisory and judicial power, to interpret the Constitution in its advisory capacity, would be an anomaly in the history of well-ordered governments. In the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church, provision is made for securing a judicial decision of the General Assembly, in respect to other cases than offences, by Overtures from the lower courts. Hence, when the Assembly interprets the Constitution, in reference to the subjects brought before it by these Overtures, it acts in a judicial capacity. But neither the Constitution, nor the practice of

previous General Assemblies, authorizes the Assembly to interpret the Constitution in regard to offences, unless either a case of discipline is brought before the body by reference, or complaint, or appeal; or unless the Assembly acts as a court of review.

Apart therefore, from the anomalous proceedings of a court of the Church declaring abstractly what is an offence in the sense in which the term is used in the Book of Discipline, the undersigned considers that the Assembly in Detroit transcended its power in making this declaration, when there was no judicial case presented for its decision, and when it was not called upon to act as a court of review.

For these reasons the undersigned, whilst he cordially concurs in the views of the majority of the Committee as to the mode in which offences recognized in the Constitution are to be brought before the Assembly, believes that the action of the Assembly at Detroit, which is sanctioned by the majority, was a violation both of the letter and spirit of the Constitution of the Church. In his judgment, it is the assertion of a principle which, if carried out to its legitimate results, would place the rights and character of every minister and private member of the Church in the hands of an irresponsible court, governed by prejudice and caprice, and acting without regard to the written Constitution by which all profess to be controlled. It would justify a Southern session or Presbytery in disciplining a member or minister for abolition sentiments, if the promulgation of such views should be regarded as pernicious in their tendency, and thus inconsistent with the demands of humanity. It would subject a millenarian or an anti-millenarian to a prosecution for heresy, according as his Presbytery would consider the one or the other in that light. In a word, it is a principle which, if acted upon, would be utterly subversive of the foundation upon which the Presbyterian Church rests—to wit: A written Con[211]stitution, designating distinctly what, in the view of the Church, is essential to orthodoxy and morality.

The following resolutions express the views of the undersigned, as presented in this report:

Resolved, That the General Assembly, in virtue of its advisory power, can bear its testimony against any thing it may regard as a sin, in the sight of God, but that testimony has no authoritative or binding effect upon the lower judicatories.

Resolved, That the General Assembly can regard nothing as heresy, or an offence in the sense in which that term is used in the Book of Discipline, which is not distinctly stated to be such in the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church.

Resolved, That as slaveholding is not alluded to either directly or indirectly, in the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church, the relation itself of master and servant cannot, in any case, be a cause of discipline before any judicatory.

Resolved, That cruelties, in the common acceptation of the term, practised by those sustaining the relation of masters to servants, being directly prohibited in the Confession of Faith, may be cause of discipline, as well as when practised by those sustaining other innocent relations in life.

Resolved, That the General Assembly cannot interpret the Constitution of the Church in regard to offences, unless a case is brought before it from a lower court, by reference, complaint, or appeal; or unless the Assembly acts as a court of review.

Resolved, That if a judicial case, involving what the Constitution of the Church specifies as an offence, is brought regularly before the Assembly by

a lower court, it belongs to the Assembly to issue the case; and if the Assembly is well informed that a Synod countenances the prevalence of what the Confession of Faith represents as "heretical sentiments and corrupt practices," it can cite the Synod to its bar, and require it to take up the subject and consider it; but it is left with the Synod to determine, whether to require the Presbytery to take further action in the matter, or to stay all further proceedings as circumstances may require.

A. H. H. Boyd.

Adjourned until 7½ P. M.
Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 23d, 7½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to hear the reports of the Committees on Synodical Records; and, on the recommendation of the respective Committees, the Records of the following Synods were approved as far as written: Genesee, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Virginia, Tennessee, New [212] York and New Jersey, Ohio, Peoria, Western Reserve, Iowa, Onondaga, West Pennsylvania, Albany, and West Tennessee.

The Committee on the correspondence between the General Assembly and the General Association of New York presented a report, which, having been read, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the question of the ecclesiastical relations of this Assembly with the General Association of New York, report:

That they understand that our Congregational brethren of New York, by their resolution communicated to the General Assembly at St. Louis, and by the statements of their Delegate on the floor of this Assembly, affirm, that one of the reasons for continuing their correspondence with this Assembly is, that they may reprove and rebuke them for not doing what is deemed a proper duty, or for doing what may by the Association be deemed improper.

To such a position the Committee can give no assent. The fraternal intercourse and interchange of Delegates are for entirely different purposes. They have not been and cannot be maintained upon such grounds. We correspond for the purpose of co-operating in the great work in which we are mutually engaged. The *modus operandi* belongs exclusively to each. What may or may not be done by either body, in the prosecution of its legitimate business, and in carrying forward its own work, not affecting the rights and interests of the others, is not a subject of censure or rebuke; and the holding of such correspondence, with a view to the exercise of such censure, is a manifest breach of that comity, which is indispensable to the proper intercourse of two ecclesiastical bodies of equal standing.

Your Committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That our Delegate to that Association, while expressing the wishes of this Assembly to maintain Christian and fraternal fellowship, and the free interchange of a correspondence with our Congregational brethren, be instructed to state to our brethren, that we can admit no right of theirs, by virtue of that correspondence, to review our proceedings, or to reprove or rebuke us for what we may or may not do.

We do not claim or propose the exercise of any such right on the part of this Assembly.

The Rev. William C. Wisner, D. D., was appointed the Delegate to the General Association of New York, and the Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., alternate.

The Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions, who had been instructed to correspond and confer with our missionaries and the Prudential Committee of the A.B.C.F.M., in respect to distinctive Presbyterian organizations among the converted heathen, reported; and their report, after considerable discussion, was recommitted.

Resolved, That Rev. Albert Barnes, and Messrs. John A. Brown, W. E. Dodge, Treadwell Ketchum, Jesse W. Benedict, David Hoadley, and Walter S. Griffith, be added to the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions, and that they be requested to divide the Committee [213] into three classes, one of which shall be elected annually by the Assembly.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church presented a report in relation to an Overture on the Eldership, similar to that already reported by the Committee on Bills and Overtures, which was accepted, and is as follows:

Wherras, it is ordinarily undesirable for the General Assembly to decide questions *in thesi*, which are liable to be brought before it in its judicial capacity, as it may thus virtually prejudge cases of discipline, it appears better, that it should ordinarily follow, in this respect, the uniform practice of civil courts, to decide legal principles only upon actual cases presented.

And whereas, there seems no necessity requiring a decision on the present question, therefore,

Resolved, That the question or questions submitted to the Assembly be indefinitely postponed.

A minority report was also presented by the Rev. A. Parmelee, D. D., a member of the Committee, which also was read and accepted.

Adjourned until Monday, 26th inst., at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

The annual sermon on Home Missions was preached, agreeably to previous appointment, before the members of the Assembly on Sabbath evening, in the Madison Square Presbyterian church, by the Rev. Robert W. Patterson, of the Presbytery of Chicago.

Monday, May 26th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been given to Rev. Alfred Eddy, Mr. John Donaldson, Mr. Edgar A. Phillips, Mr. Samuel H. Fox, Mr. Charles W. King, Mr. Augustine Chester, Rev. Nathaniel Elmer, Mr. Samuel M. Price, Hon. Orrin Robinson, Rev. Jeremiah Petrie, Charles Cooledge, M. D., Mr. Otis Allen, Rev. Ashbel Parmelee, D. D., Mr. Selden M. Ely, and Rev. Cornelius H. Taylor.

Communications were received and read from the Rev. William D. Strobel, D. D., the Delegate from the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States; and from the Rev. George W. Aughinbaugh, the Delegate from the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.

Mr. Edward Spear, a Ruling Elder from the Presbytery of Trumbull, presented his credentials, and his name was entered upon the Roll.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be tendered to the [214] governors of the Alms-House of this city, and to the managers of the Society for

the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents, for their kind attentions to the Assembly during the visit of the Assembly, on Saturday last, to the institutions under their care.

Also to the Committee of Arrangements for the toil, care, and expense, with which they made provision for the comfort of the Assembly in their late excursion to Randall's and Blackwell's Islands.

The Committee to whom was referred the annual reports of the Publication Committee, and of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, made their report. Pending the discussion of this report, the Assembly adjourned until 7 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 26th, 7 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., and Mr. Stephen H. Thayer, were nominated as Trustees of the Church Erection Fund. The election was made the first order of the day for to-morrow.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, viz., the report of the Committee on the annual reports of the Publication Committee, and of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom were referred the annual reports of the Publication Committee, and of "the Trustees of the Presbyterian House," respectfully report:

That they recommend the approval of these reports and the course of action which has been pursued by these bodies the past year. Your Committee believe that there is an important field to be occupied by the Publication Committee, without interference with the Societies whose object is to supply a more general evangelical literature. It is necessary, also, that the Committee should have a House in which their operations may be carried on, and which may be used for other purposes connected with our Church.

It appears from the reports, that three objects are now particularly engaging the attention of the Publication Committee, and the Board of Trustees, viz., the necessary arrangements for a uniform Psalm and Hymn Book for the whole Church; the endowment of the Committee with a suitable capital for carrying on its operations; and the raising of funds to complete the payment for the Presbyterian House, agreeably to the plan adopted by the General Assembly in 1854. These objects strike your Committee as reasonable and important, and, in view of the whole case, they recommend the following resolutions, viz.:

Resolved, 1. That the reports of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, and of the Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian House, be approved, and that extracts from the same be published in the [215] Appendix to the Minutes of the Assembly, at the discretion of the Stated Clerk.

2. That in view of the wants of these institutions; for the purpose of securing uniformity in Church Psalmody; of endowing the Publication Committee, and paying the balance of the sum required for the purchase of the Presbyterian House agreeably to the plan agreed upon by the General Assembly of 1854; it be and hereby is recommended to all the churches under our care, to take up a simultaneous collection on the first Sabbath of December next; and that an effort be made at that time to raise the sum of thirty thousand dollars for these objects; one half of which is to be appropriated to the Publication Committee for the two objects first mentioned, and the other one half to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House for the last

object mentioned; and that, in case less than the sum mentioned be raised by said collection, it be equally divided between the two bodies for the respective purposes mentioned.

3. In order to preserve uniformity in Church Psalmody, that the Publication Committee be authorized to negotiate with the compilers and publishers of the "Church Psalmist," and to purchase that book, if this can be done on reasonable terms. But, if such terms cannot be obtained, then that they be instructed to inquire whether a new book of Psalms and Hymns may not be compiled, which shall meet all our wants, and to report to the next General Assembly.

4. That the Publication Committee is hereby authorized to apply to the Legislature of Pennsylvania to obtain a charter to enable them more perfectly to carry on their operations, and to accept the same when granted.

5. That the following persons, whose term of office in the Publication Committee now expires, are hereby re-elected for three years, viz.: Rev. S. H. Gridley, D. D.; Rev. A. H. H. Boyd, D. D.; Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D.; Rev. George Duffield, Jr.; Rev. Henry Darling.

Nominations for Trustees of the Presbyterian House were received and the election was made the order for to-morrow, immediately after the election of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

Rev. Thornton A. Mills presented for himself and others a protest, which having been read was ordered to be placed upon the Minutes, and is as follows:

The undersigned respectfully protest against the action of the General Assembly, in ordering the report of the minority of the Committee on the constitutional power of the Assembly, with reference to slaveholding in our churches, to be placed upon the minutes, for the following reasons:

1. It is without precedent. If we are correctly informed, when a majority report has been adopted by the Assembly, no counter minority report has ever been placed beside it on the Minutes.

2. It is calculated to place the Assembly in a false position, and create serious misapprehension. The act was avowedly done as a matter of courtesy; yet, to many, it will appear to imply a doubt as to the correctness of the resolutions on slaveholding, adopted by the [216] General Assembly which met at Detroit in 1850. These resolutions undoubtedly express the sentiments of our Church, and of a great majority of this Assembly; and from them we are persuaded there can be no retrocession.

3. The three leading positions of the minority report, viz.:

[1.] That the Assembly has no ultimate controlling power over the Synod;

[2.] That nothing, which is not specifically stated as an offence in our Constitution, can be judicially treated as such;

[3.] That the action of the Assembly, which met at Detroit, was judicial in its character, and therefore improper;—

We consider as unsound; and the placing of them upon the Minutes, calculated to convey a false impression as to the attitude of the Assembly. These positions evidently found no favor with a very large majority of the body.

George W. Warner,	Thos. Lippincott,
S. M. Clement,	J. C. Campbell,
Roswell Tenney,	Edward Scofield,
Otis Allen,	J. B. Bittinger,
N. C. Robinson,	S. P. Hildreth,
B. S. Holmes,	Lucian C. Ford,
O. A. Cooper,	Wm. Hamilton,

M. Brigham,
M. Bosworth,
L. H. Fellows,
I. N. Sprague,
George E. Pierce,
J. B. Preston,
L. F. Laine,
Azel Lyman,
Jno. B. Hall,
Thornton A. Mills,
S. T. Spear,
H. Curtis,
Asa D. Smith,
Samuel H. Hall,
Jno. M. Bishop,
John Gerrish,
Henry Shedd,
M. F. Liebenau,
E. Benedict,
George E. Day,
George P. Tindall,
Wm. H. Williams,
Henry Van Bergen,
C. H. Marshall,
William Waith, Jr.,
E. B. Fancher,
Nathan Bouton,
S. Baker,
R. Dunning,
M. W. Craig,
Wm. W. Williams,
Wm. S. Huggins,
Wm. Alling.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church made the following report, which was adopted:

Whereas, A full representation, both of ministers and of elders, from all the Presbyteries, is essential to the efficiency and welfare of the Church: and *whereas*, this can be secured only by the co-operation of all the Presbyteries in raising an adequate fund to defray the necessary expenses of all the Commissioners to the Assembly; therefore

Resolved, 1. That there be a Permanent Committee on Mileage, of which the Stated Clerk shall be *ex officio* a member, who shall estimate [217] the probable amount that will be required to defray the traveling expenses of Commissioners and the contingent expenses of the Assembly, shall apportion the same to the several Presbyteries, and recommend to them prompt measures to secure the amount; the apportionment for each successive Assembly to be reported to the preceding Assembly. And if any Presbytery supposes its apportionment unjust, it may make representation to the Permanent Committee on Mileage, who shall reconsider their case, and make such changes as they shall deem proper.

Resolved, 2. That on the fourth day after the opening of the Assembly, the Presbyteries be called upon to report, whether the amount assigned them has been paid into the treasury of the Assembly.

Resolved, 3. That the Commissioners to the Assembly, whose Presbyteries have paid the amounts assigned them, are expected, within four days after the opening of the Assembly, to present a bill of their necessary traveling expenses to the Permanent Committee on Mileage, to be audited by them, and paid in equal proportions according to the funds furnished by those Presbyteries.

Resolved, 4. That since the question has arisen, whether this plan is constitutional, it be referred to the Presbyteries for their approval; and, if approved, it shall become part of the Constitution, and all prior regulations of the Assembly on the subject of Mileage, inconsistent with these regulations, shall be rescinded.

An apportionment for the expenses of the next Assembly was then submitted, which, having been considered, was adopted, and is as follows:

Synod of Albany:		Albany	$100
Champlain	$65	Columbia	50
Troy	150	Catskill	50

Synod of Utica:	
St. Lawrence	$35
Watertown	75
Oswego	70
Utica	125
Synod of Geneva:	
Geneva	160
Bath	40
Chemung	75
Ithaca	75
Pennsylvania	25
Synod of Onondaga:	
Onondaga	100
Cayuga	100
Cortland	75
Tioga	50
Synod of Susquehanna:	
Otsego	80
Chenango	60
Delaware	60
Synod of Genesee:	
Genesee	80
Ontario	80
Rochester	100
Niagara	70
Buffalo	150
Angelica	20
Synod of N. York and N. Jersey:	
Hudson	50
North River	60
Long Island	20
New York, 3d	300
New York, 4th	250
Brooklyn	170
Newark	150
Rockaway	60
Montrose	50
San Francisco	200
	[218]
Synod of Pennsylvania:	
Wilmington	75
Philadelphia, 3d	275
Philadelphia, 4th	275
Harrisburg	100
Synod of West Pennsylvania:	
Erie	60
Meadville	50
Pittsburgh	75
Synod of Michigan:	
Detroit	150
Monroe	60
Marshall	75
Washtenaw	$50
Kalamazoo	40
Synod of Western Reserve:	
Grand River	40
Portage	50
Huron	50
Trumbull	50
Cleveland	100
Elyria	40
Maumee	50
Synod of Ohio:	
Athens	55
Pataskala	75
Franklin	75
Scioto	70
Synod of Cincinnati:	
Cincinnati	185
Dayton	60
Hamilton	65
Synod of Indiana:	
Salem	70
Madison	55
Indianapolis	80
Green Castle	35
Synod of Wabash:	
Crawfordsville	50
St. Joseph	40
Logansport	70
Fort Wayne	25
Synod of Illinois:	
Illinois	55
Schuyler	70
Wabash	25
Alton	75
Synod of Peoria:	
Ottawa	30
Peoria and Knox	30
Galena	55
Chicago	150
Belvidere	30
Minnesota	35
Milwaukee	30
Fox River	20
Synod of Iowa:	
Des Moines	20
Iowa City	40
Keokuk	40
Dubuque	20
Synod of Missouri:	
St. Louis	150
Northern Missouri	50

Lexington	$40
Osage	35
Synod of Virginia:	
Winchester	75
District of Columbia	125
Hanover	100
Synod of Kentucky:	
Harmony	40
Providence	50
Green River	35
Synod of Tennessee:	
Union	100
Holston	$100
Kingston	70
New River	80
Synod of West Tennessee:	
West Tennessee	60
Shiloh	75
Richland	100
Synod of Mississippi:	
Clinton	90
Lexington South	60
Newton	75
Texas	25

The Assembly listened to some statements from Mr. A. R. Wetmore, in regard to the New York Juvenile Asylum, after which the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this Assembly have heard with great pleasure and [219] thankfulness the statements of Mr. Wetmore, in relation to the efforts and successes of the New York Juvenile Asylum.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 27th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer. The Rev. Wm. Adams, D. D., in the chair.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Rev. Samuel T. Spear, D. D., Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., and Mr. Stephen Thayer, were elected Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

Mr. John A. Brown, Mr. Matthias W. Baldwin, Hon. William Darling, Rev. George Chandler, and Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., were elected Trustees of the Publication House.

The Records of the Synod of Michigan were approved with the following exceptions:

On page 54, the Moderator's name is omitted; on pages 56 and 58, the official character of members is not indicated; on page 60, the Overture in reference to the time of the meeting of the Synod is described as referring to the time of its adjournment; on page 61, the action of the Synod in reference to the Presbytery of St. Joseph, and the invitation extended to Rev. A. Bryant to sit as a Corresponding Member, should have been entered as independent actions.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been granted to Mr. Esek C. Bradford, Rev. John B. Preston, Mr. Calvin Blood, Rev. Hervey Woods, Jervis A. Hall, Wm. G. Knowles, M. D., Rev. L. P. Hickok, D. D., Mr. Samuel Matheys, Hon. Samuel Jefferson, Mr. John B. Clark, Rev. George Duffield, D. D., and Mr. Samuel T. Bodine.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, to whom was referred the report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension, presented a report which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, having had under consideration the report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension, and several other papers to them referred, recommend to the Assembly the adoption of the following paper:

In establishing the Committee on Church Extension, the General Assembly distinctly declared, that it was not their intention to change the co-operative policy of our Church on the subject of Home Missions, but merely to provide a supplementary agency to attend to the cases needing assistance, which could not be met in consistency with the rules of the American Home Missionary Society. The Committee clearly apprehended the object of their appointment, and correctly defined it in a document put forth in August last; and this Assembly commend the strict and prudent adherence of the Com[220]mittee to the principles therein contained. There is nothing in the original appointment of the Committee, when properly understood, nor in its action, to excite the fears which have been expressed by corresponding bodies, that our Church has started on a crusade to propagate sectarianism.

The Committee has received, and put into the process of disbursement without any expense for agency, nearly four thousand dollars. While this sum has been readily furnished, and has been very nearly sufficient for all the calls coming within the province of the Committee, the Assembly believe that it has not materially diminished the general contributions of our churches to the American Home Missionary Society. While those wants which called for the establishment of the Committee exist, they must be supplied; and the Committee is hereby again commended to the confidence and liberality of our churches The Commissioners to this Assembly are requested to bring the subject to the attention of their respective Presbyteries. The Assembly would also exhort all the churches in its connection to increased interest and liberality in the work of Home Missions.

The term of service of the following members of the Committee having expired, they are hereby re-appointed for the term of three years; Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Henry Darling, Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Hon. John L. Mason and Mr. John A. Brown.

As the other papers, viz., memorials from the Presbyteries of Detroit, Milwaukee, and Keokuk, and a resolution offered in the Assembly for the appointment of a committee of investigation as to the state of the Home Missionary field in the West, which were referred to this Committee, related mostly to matters coming within the province of the Permanent Committee, those interested in them are recommended to correspond with that Committee.

The same Committee presented a report in relation to the annual report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, which, having been read, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund of the General Assembly, recommend for the adoption of the Assembly the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly record, with devout gratitude to God, the fact, that since the report was presented, a sufficient number of personal pledges have been received to complete the Fund, and place it in a condition for early distribution.

Resolved, 2. That as this is designed to be a permanent fund of a missionary character, the Synods, through whose Committees it is to be distributed, be requested to exercise due diligence and care in instructing their churches as to its nature and use, and in keeping such as may be assisted in close conformity with the provisions of the plan.

The Committee appointed to prepare a minute in regard to our Theological Seminaries, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows: [221]

The Committee appointed to frame a minute in relation to our Theological Seminaries, offer the following:

Believing that sound and thorough theological training of candidates for the Gospel ministry lies at the foundation of an intelligent Christian faith among the people, we have listened with deep interest to the reports from our several Theological Seminaries. We are grateful for the evidence of excellent progress in our older and better established institutions, both at the East and West. We commend to the churches the plans proposed to render still more ample their facilities for educating the sons of the Church for preaching the Gospel of Christ. And we would send forth, to every family connected with our churches, an earnest call for many more young men of truly pious hearts to enter these institutions, preparatory to going forth into the numerous fields already white for the harvest, but where the laborers at present are very few. We cannot too strongly urge upon our churches the importance of furnishing our Theological Seminaries with all the requisite means and facilities for giving to every young man, who is willing to become a preacher of the Gospel, that instruction which the high duties of the sacred office and the wants of this intelligent age demand. We are grateful for the kind Providence which has preserved, and now committed fully into our hands, a substantial endowment of one hundred thousand dollars to establish a Theological Seminary at Carlinville. And we would encourage the enterprise that promises soon to establish an institution in West Tennessee. It is true that care should be taken, to guard against multiplying Theological Seminaries, beyond our ability to man them with professors and furnish them with students. But, when we consider what a Theological Seminary is, it is very evident that the Church cannot afford that such institutions should be few. An eminently learned faculty, who preach in the surrounding churches almost as many sermons as a settled pastor, and a library such as can only be collected by such institutions, are a power of influence over the most intelligent and influential minds of the community, which goes far to demolish the infidelity of the day. And then these institutions in a great measure call forth, from the community surrounding them, their own support. Their influence upon the settled ministry is elevating; they commend themselves to the benevolence of many intelligent and wealthy laymen, who would not otherwise be reached by this cause, which must mainly rely upon them for support; they also foster and keep alive the cause of education, and help very much to keep the subject of the Gospel ministry prominently before the young men of the land. Then let them be multiplied, as fast as they can be established on the scale of liberal learning, which the Church and the world at this day require. We are highly gratified, that in all our institutions special care is taken to bring the students into contact and sympathy with the people. We commend these institutions, their teachers and students, to the prayers and cordial support of the churches. They are our hope for continued and increasing influence and power among men.

The Committee of the last Assembly, on a form of admission, made the following report: [222]

The Committee appointed by the last General Assembly to report a form of admission for the general use of the churches in our connection, beg leave to make the following statement:

The attention of the last Assembly was called to this subject by an Overture signed by two individuals only. Its reference to a special Committee appears to have been made without debate or serious consideration. The Overture seems to call for a serious innovation in the usages of the Church.

It is represented by the Overture, "that the methods now in use are various and many; and some of them, perhaps, both defective and censurable;" and that, "in many sections of our Church, many have confessions of faith of their own formation; variant, and, in many respects, objectionable; and alterable at different times in the same churches, to the eclipse of our established and excellent Constitution of Doctrine and Duty, of Worship and Order, of Discipline and Unity; and to the injury and the dishonor of our ecclesiastical interests in this country."

The Overture further suggests, that, if such a form be prepared, it might be "recommended to the churches, and, after trial, and due modification as the result, made a part of our fundamental law, the Constitution of our beloved Church."

Your Committee have serious doubts as to the propriety of such a procedure, at least in existing circumstances. The preparation of an abbreviated creed, conformed to the standards of the Church, demands the utmost judgment. Properly to condense the thirty-three articles of our Confession of Faith, for use on the occasion of the admission of new members to our churches, is a work calling for the concentrated wisdom of the General Assembly. It should be entered upon, it appears to your Committee, only in obedience to the imperative voice of the whole Church.

In this view of the case, your Committee are constrained to ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

The report was accepted and the Committee discharged.

The special Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Permanent Committee on the Education of Young Men for the Gospel Ministry, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the reports of the Committee on Education, and of the several Education Societies co-operating with this Assembly, respectfully report, that, having carefully considered the resolutions proposed by the Committee on Education, they would recommend their adoption by the Assembly, with divers alterations and additions, in the following form:

Resolved, 1. That a Committee of fifteen ministers and members of the Presbyterian Church, of whom five shall be laymen, shall be appointed by the General Assembly, to be called the Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry; seven, at least, of whom shall reside in or near the city of New York, which shall be the seat of its operations. Five members of this Committee shall constitute a quorum; but for the election of a Secretary of Education, or for action upon his salary, a majority shall be necessary to constitute a quorum.

Resolved, 2. This Committee, as thus constituted, shall divide itself [223] into three equal classes: the first, second, and third, whose terms of office shall expire respectively in one, two, and three years. The General Assembly shall annually elect, after its first organization, five members of this Committee for three years to fill such vacancies. It shall also fill any vacancy which may have occurred in the other classes. The Committee shall have power to fill any vacancies, occurring in the interval between the sessions of two Assemblies, for such an interval.

Resolved, 3. The duties of the Assembly's Committee shall be, to superintend the whole cause of Education in behalf of the Assembly; to appoint a General Secretary; to determine his salary and direct his movements; and also a Treasurer, to take charge of the funds which may be collected and paid into the Treasury, for the purposes of Education; to devise and adopt such principles, rules, and regulations, in reference to aiding Candidates for

the ministry, as they shall deem proper and feasible; to receive and disburse funds raised within the bounds of the Presbyterian Church or elsewhere, and, when so directed by the donors, to invest funds, for the purposes of Ministerial Education; to take the general oversight of such beneficiaries as receive assistance directly from the Treasury of the Committee; to make a full annual report of all that has been done, so far as they can learn, throughout the Church in behalf of Education for the Ministry;—in a word, to do all that is proper and necessary to the development of an educational spirit and activity throughout the Church, and the successful prosecution of this great and important cause of Christian benevolence.

Resolved, 4. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of Education to visit, as far as may be, the Synods, Presbyteries and churches throughout our bounds, for the purpose of awakening the interest and concentrating the energies of the whole Church; to visit the colleges and seminaries where young men, aided by the Permanent Committee, are pursuing their studies, for the purpose of counsel and encouragement, and for the purpose of presenting to young men the claims of the ministry upon them; to present the cause to the churches and collect funds as directed by the Assembly's Committee; and to make a quarterly report, in writing, of his labors to the said Committee.

Resolved, 5. The Treasurer of the Committee shall render quarterly accounts of all moneys received and disbursed; and he shall pay out no moneys unless thus directed by a written order of the Committee, which order or orders shall constitute his vouchers.

Resolved, 6. The Synods, Presbyteries, and churches are earnestly requested to co-operate with the Assembly's Committee in a work of such urgent and inestimable importance; to correspond with them on all points, where mutual sympathy and action are necessary to bring up the cause to its legitimate position in the prayers and efforts of God's people; to search out candidates for the ministry within their respective bounds, and to raise funds necessary for their support while in a course of preparation for the sacred office. It is particularly urged upon them to take up an annual collection in behalf of the Edu[224]cation cause, which, if not required within their own bounds, may be transmitted to the Treasury of the Assembly's Committee, to be used for the support of such beneficiaries as may be under their patronage.

Resolved, 7. Synods, Presbyteries, and churches may, at their own election, carry forward educational operations within their bounds, through their own agencies and local organizations, and assist their young men directly from their own funds, and according to their own rules and regulations; or operate through the Assembly's Committee, contributing their funds to the general treasury, and placing their candidates under the patronage and supervision of the said Committee. Where the former of these methods is adopted, it is very desirable that a yearly report be made to the Permanent Committee, in order that the combined results of the whole cause may appear in the Committee's annual report to the General Assembly.

Resolved, 8. The Permanent Committee shall be empowered to make such arrangements with the Central American Education Society at New York, and the Philadelphia Education Society at Philadelphia, as shall insure, if possible, the harmonious co-operation of these Societies in the work of educating men for the Gospel ministry.

Resolved, 9. It is recommended that the young men, aided by the Assembly's Committee, be ordinarily placed as soon as possible under the care of Presbyteries; and that in all ordinary cases they be licensed, if convenient,

by the Presbyteries to which they naturally belong. [See Form of Government, Chap. XIV., sec. 2.]

Resolved, 10. That it be recommended, that the annual collection in aid of Education for the Ministry be taken up on the Sabbath succeeding the day of prayer for Colleges; and it is also recommended, that an appropriate sermon be preached on the occasion of that collection.

Resolved, 11. That the Presbyteries be directed to report to the General Assembly the amounts contributed by the several churches under their care, in aid of the education of young men for the ministry, and that the said sums be placed in a separate column in the statistical minutes of the Assembly.

The following were appointed the *Education Committee*, in accordance with the above resolutions: Rev. John J. Owen, D. D., Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. Asa. D. Smith, D. D., Mr. Jesse W. Benedict, Mr. Anson G. Phelps, Mr. Joseph B. Sheffield, Mr. Walter S. Griffith, Mr. William A. Booth, Rev. John Jenkins, Rev. George Duffield, Jr., Hon. William Darling, Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Henry Smith, D. D., Rev. Harvey Curtis, and Hon. William Jessup, LL.D.

In connection with this report, the Rev. Theron Baldwin, the corresponding secretary of the Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education in the West, addressed the Assembly.

Whereupon it was

Resolved, That this Assembly continues to approve of the object and aim of the Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education in the West, and commend it anew to the confidence and aid of the churches.

Adjourned until 7 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [225]

Tuesday, May 27th, 7 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The election of Trustees of the General Assembly, and Directors of the Theological Seminaries, was postponed to the next Assembly.

Messrs. David Hoadley, Roe Lockwood, and Treadwell Ketchum, were appointed the *Committee to audit* the accounts of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

The Committee on the Narrative of the State of Religion, made their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Rev. George Duffield, D. D., Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., LL.D., Rev. William H. Parks, Rev. Eber M. Rollo, and Mr. Matthias W. Baldwin, were appointed the *Committee on Psalmody*, in accordance with the report of the Committee upon that subject.

The report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church, and the minority report of the same Committee, upon the Overture referred to them relative to the Eldership, were indefinitely postponed.

The same disposition was made of the Overture reported by the Committee of Bills and Overtures upon the same subject.

The Assembly voted to open a correspondence with the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, now in session in this city; and the Rev. John Jenkins was appointed as principal, and Rev. Conway P. Wing alternate, to attend the next meeting of that body.

The Standing Committees of the Assembly respectively reported that no business was before them, and asked to be discharged. Their request was granted.

Resolved, That the Minutes of this Assembly, with the usual Appendix, be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The traveling expenses of the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies to Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New York; the bills for printing and stationery; the janitor's bill; with the salary and traveling expenses of the Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Assembly be and they are hereby returned to the Rev. L. P. Hickok, D. D., for the able, kind, impartial and Christian manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of this body during its present session.

Resolved, further, That the thanks of this General Assembly be tendered to the citizens of New York, who have extended their hospitality to the Commissioners and others in attendance, and have contributed to make their stay in this city so peculiarly pleasant, with the assurance of our fervent prayer that the blessing of God, in connection with this Assembly, may rest upon them.

Also, to the Committee of Arrangements for the manner in which they have provided for the comfort and convenience of the Assembly.

Also, to the Trustees of the Madison Square Presbyterian church, for the accommodations extended to the Assembly during their present session. [226]

Also, to the press, for its full and minute report of the proceedings of the Assembly during its sessions.

The Minutes of the session were read and approved.

The calling of the Roll was dispensed with.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for the dissolving of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved; and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the First Presbyterian church, or some other church designated by the Committee of Arrangements, in the city of Cleveland, O., on the third Thursday of May, 1857, at 11 o'clock A. M.

HENRY DARLING, *Permanent Clerk.*

New York, May 27th, 1856.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1856.

Nearly two-thirds of the Presbyteries, representing every section of the vast field occupied by our Church, have sent up their annual Narratives on the State of Religion. In reviewing the condition of the churches thus given, we rejoice in what God hath wrought. We thank him for his forbearance, and that, amid all our unworthiness, he has smiled upon our endeavors, and sent prosperity.

It has proved a difficult task to condense the materials furnished in the Narratives, and at the same time give the impression made by their perusal; but we present the prominent topics which they bring to our notice.

External Condition.

There is, of necessity, a wide difference in the outward circumstances of our churches. The strong and the weak are often grouped together on the

same field. Some are flourishing in the midst of a rapidly increasing population; others are being drained of their strength by the tides of westward emigration. Such changes, however, are relative, and do not impede the general growth. Severely as they may bear upon the congregations thus enfeebled, they give no real cause for discouragement, but rather furnish a motive to "strengthen the things that remain and are ready to die." We have not, in the Presbyterial reports, any guide to the number of our churches dependent upon missionary aid; although mention is made of several that during the year have become self-supporting. Neither can we, for the same reason, speak with accuracy on several of the subjects concerning which the General Assembly desire particular information. But we observe progress in the removal of church debts, an increasingly liberal support of the ministry, the building of parsonages and a growing attachment to the pastoral relation. Twenty new church edifices have been built within the bounds of fifteen Presbyteries. Many others have been enlarged and improved.

The want, however, of suitable places of worship is repeatedly brought to view, as a most serious embarrassment to the work of preaching the Gospel, and the gathering of congregations. One Presbytery, having under its care twelve churches, reports but three houses of worship, with a pressing work on their hands in the forming of churches at new centres of enterprise, calling for an enlightened and settled ministry. Others in like circumstances speak of church edifices commenced, in anticipation of aid from the Church Erection Fund, but remaining unfinished for lack of such aid. It will be a most welcome announcement through all our borders, that this noble Fund is at length completed, and is now available.

Church Extension.

This work is vigorously prosecuted on the part of several Presbyteries, under the direction of standing committees, or through the agency of exploring missionaries. In others the demand for such systematic effort is not deemed to be so imperative, as the ground is already largely shared by other Christian denominations. It is the arrangement in some Presbyteries, to supply their feeble and vacant churches, by settled ministers, each giving a portion of his time to such missionary labor; a practice approved by our Form of Government, and tending to strengthen the bond of union, that should always exist between the strong and the weak.

A Presbytery has been organized in the State of Texas, and is, for the first time, represented in this body. New churches also, have been planted at important points, and preaching stations multiplied in neighborhoods otherwise destitute of the Gospel. We also observe with satisfaction, that several of the larger congregations in our Eastern and Central cities, are, with liberal spirit, colonizing new enterprises, or sustaining mission churches, under the most encouraging auspices. There has been evident progress in this whole work: while, as a Church, we have happily adhered to those principles of co-operative Christianity, which God hath blessed, and the fruits of which are to be seen in every part of our land.

With but few exceptions, arising from local and temporary causes, there is a gratifying increase in the benevolent contributions of the churches. This is an indication of good, especially at a time when there is so much to encourage large-hearted and earnest measures to extend the kingdom of Christ over our world.

Candidates for the Ministry.

We are still compelled to deplore "the want of laborers" for the great and ready harvest. The call for men, to break the bread of life to destitute and

waiting multitudes, comes to us in tones not to be disregarded. It is evident that we have not the men, either in the ministry, or at any stage of preparation for it, in sufficient numbers to meet the present demand. We are suffering in this respect the consequences of past neglect; and the signs of a deeper sense of responsibility in this matter are not as hopeful as we could desire. It will be remembered, that the last General Assembly commended "this whole subject—education for the ministry—to the special care of Synods, Presbyteries, and churches, exhorting them to use all diligence in searching out suitable candidates for the ministry, and to increased faithfulness in training them for the whole work of the ministry." To a limited extent this suggestion is being carried out; and the good results are already seen in the larger number of students for the ministry reported by those Presbyteries, which have laid hold of this work, than by those which have taken no action in the premises. We regret to say, that many of the Narratives are silent on this whole subject, while there is no other department of Christian enterprise whose issues are so vital to our existence as a Church, or to the salvation of men. In vain, without success here, are our wisest schemes to build up the cause of the Redeemer, who has not only given us the command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature;" but also, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth laborers into his harvest."

Religious Education.

In this branch of the work intrusted to our churches, embracing Sabbath-schools, Bible classes, and the catechetical instruction of the young, we find great encouragement. Its importance is appreciated, and it is carried on with peculiar interest.

Twenty Presbyteries report, that the Assembly's Catechism is taught to a greater or less extent in their Sabbath-schools, or in classes under pastoral supervision. In one of our pioneer churches, one hundred and thirty-five prize Bibles have been given to as many persons, as rewards for reciting the catechism perfectly at a single recitation: and as a most significant fact, it is stated, that of this number twenty-three have been hopefully converted, and others are asking what they must do to be saved. Other facts of similar import are given; affording delightful evidence of the value of this judicious compend of Scriptural truth, and indicating the blessed results which must ever attend its diligent use.

Mission Sabbath-schools, in which are gathered large numbers of children, especially in cities and larger towns, who otherwise would receive no religious instruction, are accomplishing a good work. "We advert with pleasure to the fact," says one of our Southern Presbyteries, "that special attention has been paid to the spiritual interests of the colored population, among whom we number many exemplary, single-hearted Christians, some of them recently converted to God." We have similar testimony from this section of the Church, to the fidelity and freedom with which this class are instructed in gospel truth; thus alleviating the evils of their condition, and bringing them to the liberty wherewith Christ makes his people free.

Revivals of Religion.

Other years in our history have been more distinguished than this, by the outpourings of God's Spirit, and the numbers hopefully converted. But we gratefully record the mention of eighty-nine revivals of religion within the bounds of thirty Presbyteries. The results of these seasons of refreshing are not always given in numbers; but more than one thousand, it is believed,

have thus been led to consecrate themselves to the service of God, and the most of them have made public profession of their faith. These revivals have, in most instances, commenced in the ordinary use of the means of grace, and the ministerial labor has been performed mainly by the pastors. The members of the church have often received the larger share of the blessing in their quickened graces, and in larger measures of the divine life. If the number of converts has not been large, the churches have been brought into healthier action, and the better prepared for earnest and steadfast effort for Christ and the souls of men.

In these gracious seasons family religion, without which church religion is little more than a name, appears to be greatly revived. The hearts of fathers have been turned toward their children, and of children unto their fathers, and of both unto the Lord. Thus, an unusual proportion of heads of families and of young men have been added to the Church.

In many of the congregations, as yet unvisited with the special influences of the Holy Spirit, tokens for good are seen in an increase of prayer, and a marked solemnity of the Sabbath services. On others, drops of mercy are falling, giving promise of a gracious rain. These are the indications among several churches with which the General Assembly is holding its present sessions; and this body has experienced the hallowed influence of the Spirit's presence, characterizing its devotional exercises, and seen in the fraternal feeling which has marked its deliberations and their results. We are one in all that constitutes the life and power of the Church of God; while it is not a vain hope, that, in the mutual exercise of patience and charity, we shall come to a like unity on all points affecting, in any degree, the great interests committed to our charge.

We are reminded, in conclusion, how quickly each of us will be called by the Great Master to quit his earthly station. We have to record the names of twenty-one of our brethren who have, during the year, departed this life.

Rev.	George B. Whiting,	of the Presbytery of	Columbia.
"	Egbert Roosa,	" "	Chemung.
"	Harvey R. Hitchcock,	" "	Cayuga.
"	William R. Chapman,	" "	"
"	Abel L. Crandall,	" "	Cortland.
"	Robert W. Hill,	" "	Rochester.
"	Foster Lilly,	" "	Angelica.
"	Robert G. Armstrong,	" "	Hudson.
"	William C. White,	" "	Newark.
"	James C. Howe,	" "	Wilmington.
"	George Hornell,	" "	Detroit.
"	Marcus Harrison,	" "	Kalamazoo.
"	Ward Child,	" "	Trumbull.
"	James Eells,	" "	Elyria.
"	Augustine Bardwell,	" "	Scioto.
"	Joseph M. Grout,	" "	Illinois.
"	Eleazer T. Ball,	" "	Belvidere.
"	Artemas Bullard, D. D.,	" "	St. Louis.
"	Henry C. Werth,	" "	"
"	John J. Royal,	" "	Winchester.
"	Thomas D. Hudson,	" "	New River.

By order of the General Assembly.

LAURENS P. HICKOK, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF SCHEDULES.

I. Of the Synods and their Presbyteries.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	5	80	3	6	68	211	136	8495	79	128	$259 50	$2041 94	$2781 73	$332 29	$2896 87	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	26	...	...	22	57	44	2423	17	26	46 00	134 82	444 16	21 00	1441 93	David Dobie.
2. Troy	1820		24	1	...	16	40	31	2654	21	39	81 50	229 25	468 56	120 17	329 97	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany	1791	...	11	2	3	12	61	39	1532	29	39	32 00	896 56	779 80	.....	415 72	Eber M. Rollo.
4. Columbia	1802	...	6	...	2	6	26	5	861	10	13	50 00	372 00	310 00	125 00	441 00	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill	1851	...	13	...	1	12	27	17	1025	2	21	50 00	409 31	779 21	66 12	268 25	Josiah Leonard.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	4	64	3	14	77	203	152	7496	57	113	154 00	2218 75	2719 46	2678 04	2375 33	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	7	...	4	8	8	31	757	1	13	12 00	214 00	764 08	156 00	200 91	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	15	...	3	22	37	39	1920	14	45	75 00	394 94	655 63	156 00	663 19	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego	1823	...	11	...	...	18	15	18	1501	3	13	.....	826 36	433 89	19 03	300 40	Thomas A. Weed.
4. Utica	1842	...	31	3	7	29	143	64	3318	39	42	67 00	783 45	865 86	2347 01	1210 83	Samuel W. Brace.
III. Synod of Geneva	1812	5	101	3	6	94	203	235	9894	68	135	184 50	3810 47	2683 00	1619 79	2857 85	William N. McHarg.
1. Geneva	1805	...	44	...	5	31	75	99	4351	26	63	38 18	1957 74	1596 58	807 64	1807 06	Charles Hawley.
2. Bath	1817	...	12	...	...	18	37	27	1516	12	22	37 25	409 62	193 37	165 00	318 04	B. Coleman Smith.
3. Chemung	1836	...	20	2	..	21	63	59	2014	18	29	44 00	695 90	499 90	171 53	345 80	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	13	1	1	11	20	33	1486	10	11	50 73	634 21	338 59	441 62	370 95	William N. McHarg.
5. Pennsylvania	1845	...	12	...	...	13	8	17	527	2	10	14 34	113 00	54 56	34 00	16 00	Elijah D. Wells.
IV. Synod of Onondaga	1855	4	85	6	2	75	451	281	8374	110	158	218 14	3532 75	3072 34	1802 09	2589 20	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	30	...	...	25	129	89	2717	22	23	78 00	1444 88	988 65	600 00	612 45	Seth P. M. Hastings.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	30	6	...	22	60	77	2390	13	33	82 50	1131 61	812 51	606 36	970 30	Henry A. Nelson.
3. Cortland	1825	...	14	...	2	17	137	61	1724	57	62	18 00	471 22	539 01	337 00	459 57	Hercules R. Dunham.
4. Tioga	1829	...	11	...	...	11	125	54	1543	18	40	39 64	485 04	732 17	258 73	546 88	Peter Lockwood.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
V. Synod of Susquehanna....	1853	3	47	2	12	54	145	104	4253	42	72	$96 25	$1036 71	$1345 15	$548 28	$573 35	David Torrey.
1. Otsego.....	1820	...	16	..	3	19	30	16	1571	5	19	62 00	631 75	574 67	253 44	486 06	John G. Hall.
2. Chenango.....	1826	...	15	...	2	18	90	61	1673	34	41	28 25	298 75	673 00	110 21	10 00	Willard M. Hoyt.
3. Delaware	1831	...	16	2	7	17	25	27	1009	3	12	6 00	106 21	97 48	184 63	77 29	Isaac D. Cornwell.
VI. Synod of Genesee	1821	6	117	6	10	120	410	354	13,050	145	254	337 44	7564 63	4273 08	3475 99	7647 10	Timothy Stillman.
1. Genesee	1819	...	14	1	...	17	49	37	1303	18	31	42 54	1014 21	391 21	345 14	445 04	Gabriel S. Corwin.
2. Ontario	1817	...	15	...	...	16	22	43	1678	11	31	36 50	231 72	238 81	179 23	235 21	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester.....	1819	...	25	1	5	17	56	66	2810	9	29	11 42	3203 44	1277 69	1088 53	2130 55	Jonathan Copeland.
4. Niagara	1817	...	20	1	...	18	47	77	2396	21	48	86 98	828 58	468 74	192 87	2841 35	Charles E. Furman.
5. Buffalo	1823	...	39	2	5	41	118	116	3777	29	94	160 00	2171 96	1869 63	1634 05	1977 01	Timothy Stillman.
6. Angelica.....	1828	...	4	1	...	11	118	15	1086	57	21	.....	114 72	27 00	36 17	17 94	Samuel A. Rawson.
VII. Synod of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	10	219	26	59	157	819	896	23,418	245	554	903 74	20,670 26	14,321 95	10,141 23	4876 70	John N. Lewis.
1. Hudson	1797	...	15	...	3	13	27	41	1707	12	34	70 07	244 90	453 16	154 00	220 75	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River.....	1819	...	16	...	1	17	51	24	1701	10	21	65 00	284 84	353 03	51 00	183 00	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	11	...	...	6	33	12	584	10	13	20 00	225 12	92 88	80 00	189 65	Henry Clark.
4. New York, 3d	1831	...	44	13	27	22	217	257	5409	58	133	241 26	14,367 94	7483 62	7739 19	2975 30	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, 4th	1845	...	29	12	18	11	121	204	2396	26	108	200 00	3564 38	4062 26	1700 04	1277 45	A. Augustus Wood.
6. Brooklyn.....	1838	...	18	...	...	8	91	135	2561	19	55	62 68	114 60	34 00	16 00	.....	James W. McLane, D. D.
7. Newark.....	1824	...	31	1	...	20	73	102	3944	12	53	134 73	1036 73	974 00	221 00	.....	Joseph Few Smith, D. D.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	18	...	2	18	57	38	2501	37	40	60 00	374 50	485 00	115 00	.....	Joel Campbell.
9. Montrose	1832	...	23	...	8	32	133	41	2476	55	57	50 00	457 25	384 00	65 00	30 55	Adam Miller.
10. San Francisco	1849	...	14	...	...	10	16	42	239	6	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel H. Willey.
VIII. S. of Pennsylvania.....	1838	4	80	4	26	70	467	344	9665	120	399	622 00	26,981 59	6413 47	9002 96	9092 33	John McKnight.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	14	1	...	19	62	114	1124	10	35	75 00	803 64	320 85	38 21	537 66	James McIntire.
2. Philadelphia, 3d	1832	...	28	1	10	19	160	109	2497	44	107	207 00	21,690 40	3902 82	5759 00	6865 00	John McKnight.
3. Philadelphia, 4th	1845	...	26	2	12	24	217	93	5086	61	225	250 00	3428 90	1442 17	2795 82	1284 67	Thomas J. Shepherd.
4. Harrisburgh.....	1839	...	12	...	4	8	28	28	958	5	32	90 00	1058 65	747 63	409 93	405 00	Conway P. Wing.

IX. Synod of West Penn....	1843	3	25	...	3	37	94	50	2681	17	91	135	55	1002	72	811	85	138	00	477	36	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie.....	1801	...	13	...	1	15	36	22	1135	7	26	68	67	295	98	300	85	74	00	363	26	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville.....	1842	...	7	...	1	16	43	10	897	8	44	33	88	90	74	36	00	64	00	114	10	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh.	1839	...	5	...	1	6	15	18	649	2	21	33	00	616	00	475	00	.....		.....		Samuel M. Sparks.
X. Synod of Michigan.....	1834	5	79	1	6	84	382	386	6512	111	134	233	26	2163	36	1929	91	1413	01	1510	31	Chauncy Osborn.
1. Detroit.	1826	...	24	...	1	27	149	152	1994	49	78	74	96	1053	77	728	77	1210	58	658	99	Oliver W. Mather.
2. Monroe	1833	...	10	...	...	12	76	89	1193	7	19	50	00	317	14	287	50	22	75	259	87	Henry G. Blinn.
3. Marshall.....	1838	..	21	...	...	21	121	95	1619	41	17	85	00	564	13	349	94	119	12	385	90	S. Dwight Pitkin.
4. Washtenaw*..	1838	...	14	1	5	13	...	...	1054	...	...	.....		.....		.....		.....		.....		Lucius I. Root.
5. Kalamazoo.....	1838	...	10	...	...	11	36	50	652	14	20	23	30	228	32	563	70	60	56	205	55	Milton Bradley.
XI. Synod of W. Reserve...	1825	7	129	5	4	106	259	222	6487	76	177	269	71	2826	80	3537	23	1299	00	1559	57	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River.....	1814	...	14	...	2	12	45	25	914	8	21	22	69	326	95	305	44	500	00	215	05	Ebenezer Bushnell.
2. Portage..... ...	1818	...	37	4	2	15	7	3	909	...	4	5	00	164	95	203	21	.....		.....		Newton Barrett.
3. Huron.....	1823	...	17	...	...	16	22	49	1117	9	20	59	55	700	16	468	35	506	00	386	43	Alfred Newton.
4. Trumbull	1827	...	11	...	...	14	90	24	1129	20	45	20	71	460	54	460	15	.....		440	54	Xenophon Betts.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	24	1	...	15	80	77	1260	30	60	59	28	618	65	1312	12	59	10	2060	62	James Shaw.
6. Elyria.....	1842	...	18	...	...	16	4	14	575	2	9	86	00	314	01	625	14	96	20	259	96	Alfred H. Betts.
7. Maumee.....	1842	...	8	...	...	18	11	30	583	7	18	16	48	241	54	162	82	137	70	196	97	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. Synod of Ohio.....	1814	4	51	3	3	78	271	176	4650	81	134	214	28	2436	19	2023	71	741	90	557	53	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens.....	1822	...	10	1	...	19	30	39	644	15	10	58	00	201	40	70	00	.....		60	00	James S. Walton.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	18	...	...	23	106	44	1762	23	44	40	28	844	48	863	78	232	50	159	85	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin.....	1835	..	15	...	3	24	98	44	1425	30	37	56	00	568	67	547	87	126	65	76	93	Henry Shedd.
4. Scioto.....	1845	...	8	2	...	12	37	49	819	13	43	60	00	821	64	542	06	382	75	260	75	Joseph Chester.
XIII. Synod of Cincinnati...	1829	3	44	12	...	36	78	88	2619	14	88	328	50	5024	81	1978	06	6052	27	396	00	James J. Blaisdell.
1. Cincinnati.....	1828	...	25	9	...	14	22	43	1436	4	33	195	50	4352	00	1420	00	5560	00	120	00	D. Howe Allen, D. D.
2. Dayton	1838	...	10	2	...	11	24	30	725	8	31	68	00	586	00	413	06	375	00	261	00	E. Roger Johnson.
3. Hamilton.....	1846	...	9	1	...	11	32	15	458	2	24	65	00	86	81	145	00	117	27	15	00	Benjamin Graves.
XIV. Synod of Indiana.....	1826	4	44	4	8	69	212	156	3070	71	129	238	00	1977	30	1180	92	573	98	1132	70	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem.....	1823	...	11	1	...	20	90	61	805	29	49	70	00	535	81	406	21	192	96	192	75	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	14	1	7	17	58	38	922	21	47	70	00	614	50	263	00	196	00	261	25	Hiram Wason.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
3. Indianapolis	1830	...	11	1	...	17	47	42	793	14	16	$68 00	$306 60	$325 00	$78 18	$678 70	George M. Maxwell.
4. Green Castle	1850	...	8	1	1	15	17	15	550	7	17	30 00	520 39	186 71	106 84	.....	William M. Cheever.
XV. Synod of Wabash	1851	4	41	4	3	69	239	103	3170	75	62	121 00	898 80	836 40	199 75	115 00	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	15	...	...	13	91	20	522	33	19	.....	245 25	128 50	2 00	65 00	Samuel S. Thomson.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	13	4	1	24	85	53	1365	28	22	43 00	414 55	322 45	155 00	.....	Norman Kellogg.
3. Logansport	1835	...	8	...	2	18	57	30	931	14	21	48 00	239 00	385 45	42 75	50 00	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne	1845	...	5	...	...	14	6	...	352	...	...	30 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	Philander Anderson.
XVI. Synod of Illinois	1831	4	62	3	5	77	189	148	3917	75	65	239 00	1370 73	941 35	2773 63	1261 05	Henry C. Abernethy.
1. Illinois	1828	...	19	...	...	16	114	36	1092	51	13	52 00	537 30	575 70	2595 00	300 00	Livingston M. Glover.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	16	1	4	19	6	29	1011	5	12	72 00	182 00	150 00	.....	293 00	Henry C. Abernethy.
3. Wabash	1823	...	5	...	...	8	10	13	238	3	...	25 00	47 48	7 00	.....	25 00	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	22	2	1	34	59	70	1576	16	40	90 00	603 95	208 65	178 55	643 05	Augustus T. Norton.
XVII. Synod of Peoria	1843	8	88	3	15	84	132	319	3812	17	128	294 57	3687 59	2721 09	1084 21	3256 99	Ira M. Weed.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	13	...	...	12	3	9	283	1	6	40 25	42 36	19 00	.....	25 00	Nahum Gould.
2. Peoria and Knox	1836	...	12	1	2	10	15	42	433	3	8	50 00	625 50	726 00	.....	411 00	John W. Bailey.
3. Galena	1842	...	8	...	5	17	10	34	696	...	9	.....	140 00	100 00	.....	150 00	James R. Smith.
4. Chicago	1847	...	19	1	5	12	61	101	1032	12	51	84 32	2628 48	1668 24	775 50	2468 53	Lewis H. Loss.
5. Belvidere	1847	...	12	...	...	6	10	51	564	...	25	40 00	65 52	170 56	298 71	52 46	Isaac E. Carey.
6. Minnesota	1850	...	6	...	...	12	11	31	261	1	9	25 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	Edward D. Neill.
7. Milwaukee	1851	...	11	1	...	6	19	32	255	...	12	35 00	75 00	.....	.....	130 00	Sidney H. Barteau.
8. Fox River	1851	...	7	...	3	9	3	19	288	...	8	20 00	110 73	37 29	10 00	20 00	John B. Preston.
XVIII. Synod of Iowa	1853	4	33	...	11	40	94	189	1175	15	49	89 50	241 50	125 62	2655 80	327 20	Edmund D. Holt.
1. Des Moines	1845	...	7	...	...	9	23	37	353	...	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Thompson Bird.
2. Iowa City	1852	...	12	...	4	20	52	137	468	12	17	49 50	104 00	75 00	80 00	125 00	Samuel Storrs Howe.
3. Keokuk	1852	...	9	...	7	10	19	15	354	3	17	40 00	137 50	50 62	2575 80	202 20	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
4. Dubuque*	1855	...	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel Newbury.

XIX. Synod of Missouri.....	1832	4	39	2	1	57	68	63	2249	18	33	145 00	291 28	122 15	1132 60	262 20	John Leighton.
1. Saint Louis	1831	...	11	...	...	10	...	...	663	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Edmund Wright.
2. Northern Missouri.	1845	...	5	...	...	8	25	18	556	6	12	50 00	60 00	100 00	1105 00	50 00	John Leighton.
3. Lexington	1845	...	11	2	...	21	24	30	569	2	6	60 00	162 78	2 50	5 00	140 00	Samuel J. M. Beebe.
4. Osage	1845	...	12	...	1	18	19	15	461	10	15	35 00	68 50	19 65	22 60	72 20	Joseph V. Barks.
XX. Synod of Virginia.....	1788	3	35	2	7	49	192	110	4180	54	174	80 50	3194 04	981 65	814 25	1497 51	Thomas D. Bell.
1. Winchester.....	1794	...	5	...	5	19	43	19	1185	21	32	70 50	314 11	38 00	158 00	204 37	Henry Matthews.
2. District of Columbia	1831	...	14	1	1	13	49	60	1471	9	98	10 00	1072 00	694 00	208 00	349 00	William McLain.
3. Hanover	1838	...	16	1	1	17	100	31	1524	24	44	.....	1807 93	249 65	448 25	944 14	Henry S. Osborn.
XXI. Synod of Kentucky....	1802	3	14	...	...	20	47	1	1046	22	23	90 00	30 00	.....	.....	105 00	Archer C. Dickerson.
1. Harmony.....	1842	...	6	...	...	10	2	...	354	2	9	40 00	.....	.....	.....	50 00	Fincelius R. Gray.
2. Providence.....	1842	...	4	...	...	6	44	...	510	20	14	50 00	.....	.....	.....	15 00	Thomas H. Cleland.
3. Green River.....	1842	...	4	...	...	4	1	1	182	...	...	.....	30 00	.....	.....	40 00	Archer C. Dickerson.
XXII. Synod of Tennessee...	1817	4	47	1	14	83	257	92	5110	67	189	341 43	1555 79	412 65	315 00	306 70	Joseph H. Martin.
1. Union	1797	...	21	...	7	31	72	29	1883	19	63	90 00	909 55	80 00	300 00	.....	Gideon S. White.
2. Holston.....	1826	...	10	1	5	17	111	25	1718	31	82	75 00	266 00	245 00	.....	286 70	Ira Morey.
3. Kingston	1838	...	8	...	...	20	60	35	758	12	29	116 43	189 78	19 65	.....	20 00	William B. Brown.
4. New River.....	1838	..	8	...	2	15	14	3	751	5	15	60 00	190 46	68 00	15 00	.....	George Painter.
XXIII. Synod of W. Tenn...	1826	3	24	...	1	37	193	28	2261	44	80	226 00	700 73	146 65	128 00	360 05	William Eagleton, D. D.
1. West Tennessee.....	1810	...	5	...	...	7	30	2	630	7	10	.....	79 00	88 00	.....	201 50	Robert C. Garrison.
2. Shiloh.....	1816	...	8	...	...	16	82	12	914	12	22	120 00	114 75	25 00	117 00	10 00	Amzi Bradshaw.
3. Richland.....	1824	...	11	. .	1	14	81	14	717	25	48	106 00	506 98	33 65	11 00	148 55	Archibald M. Pickens.
XXIV. Synod of Mississippi..	1846	4	26	1	3	36	88	97	1176	22	25	205 00	794 00	.....	.....	.....	Charles M. Atkinson.
1. Clinton	1822	...	8	1	1	12	36	6	353	18	6	90 00	314 00	.....	.....	.....	Consider Parish.
2. Lexington, South*.....	1845	...	7	. .	1	9	...	...	390	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Fisher A. Tyler.
3. Newton	1845	...	6	...	...	10	41	46	365	...	...	90 00	480 00	.....	.....	.....	James M. Richardson.
4. Texas.....	1854	...	5	...	1	5	11	45	68	4	19	25 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	Daniel C. Henderson.

II. Of the Synods.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	80	3	6	68	211	136	8,495	79	128	$259.50	$2,041.94	$2,781.93	$332.29	$2,896.87
2. Utica	1829	4	64	3	14	77	203	152	7,496	57	113	154.00	2,218.75	2,719.46	2,678.04	2,375.33
3. Geneva	1812	5	101	3	6	94	203	235	9,894	68	135	184.50	3,810.47	2,683.00	1,619.79	2.857.85
4. Onondaga	1855	4	85	6	2	75	451	281	8,374	110	158	218.14	3,532.75	3,072.34	1,802.09	2,589.20
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	47	2	12	54	145	104	4,253	42	72	96.25	1,036.71	1,345.15	548.28	573.35
6. Genesee	1821	6	117	6	10	120	410	354	13,050	145	254	337.44	7,564.63	4,273.08	3,475.99	7,647.10
7. N. York and N. Jersey	1788	10	219	26	59	157	819	896	23,418	245	554	903.74	20,670.26	14,321.95	10,141.23	4,876.70
8. Pennsylvania	1838	4	80	4	26	70	467	344	9,665	120	399	622.00	26,981.59	6,413.47	9,002.96	9,092.33
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	25	...	3	37	94	50	2,681	17	91	135.55	1,002 72	811.85	138.00	477.36
10. Michigan	1834	5	79	1	6	84	382	386	6,512	111	134	233.26	2,163.36	1,929.91	1,413.01	1,510.31
11. Western Reserve	1825	7	129	5	4	106	259	222	6,487	76	177	269.71	2,826.80	3,537.23	1,299.00	1,559.57
12. Ohio	1814	4	57	3	3	78	271	176	4,650	81	134	214.28	2,436.19	2,023.71	741.90	557.53
13. Cincinnati	1829	3	44	12	...	36	78	88	2,619	14	88	328.50	5,024.81	1,978.06	6,052.27	396.00
14. Indiana	1826	4	44	4	8	69	212	156	3,070	71	129	238.00	1,977.30	1,180.92	573.98	1,132.70
15. Wabash	1851	4	41	4	3	69	239	103	3,170	75	62	121.00	898.80	836.40	199.75	115.00
16. Illinois	1831	4	62	3	5	77	189	148	3,917	75	65	239.00	1,370.73	941.35	2,773.55	1,261.05
17. Peoria	1843	8	88	3	15	84	132	319	3,812	17	128	294.57	3,687.59	2,721.09	1,084.21	3,256.99
18. Iowa	1853	4	33	...	11	40	94	139	1,175	15	49	89.50	241.50	125.62	2,655.80	327.20
19. Missouri	1832	4	39	2	1	57	68	63	2,249	18	33	145.00	291.28	122.15	1,132.60	262.20
20. Virginia	1788	3	35	2	7	49	192	110	4,180	54	174	80.50	3,194.04	981.65	814.25	1,497.51
21. Kentucky	1802	3	14	...	...	20	47	1	1,046	22	23	90.00	30.00	.....	.....	105.00
22. Tennessee	1817	4	47	1	14	83	257	92	5,110	67	189	341.43	1,555.79	412.65	315.00	306.70
23. West Tennessee	1826	3	24	...	1	37	193	28	2,261	44	80	226.00	700.73	146.65	128.00	360.05
24. Mississippi	1846	4	26	1	3	36	88	97	1,176	22	25	205.00	794.00			
		108	1574	94	219	1677	5704	4730	138,760	1645	3394	$6026.87	$96,052.74	$55,359.42	$48,921.99	$46,033.90

MINUTES, 1857.

Cleveland, May 21st, 1857.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, at the city of Cleveland, Ohio, on Thursday, the 21st day of May, A. D. 1857, at 11 o'clock A. M., in the Second Presbyterian church—the place designated by the Committee of Arrangements—and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Laurens P. Hickok, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from Exodus 17: 11, 12, 13: "And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and, when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands were heavy: and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon: and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side: and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people, with the edge of the sword."

Immediately after the sermon, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [370]

Thursday, May 21st, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was constituted with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Stated Clerk presented the report of the Committee on Commissions; and the following persons were thereupon enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners to this General Assembly.

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	Selden Haines,	R. Oscar Barber,
	Edw'd B. Chamberlin,	Timothy Beaman (2).
2. *Troy*,	Chauncey H. Hubbard,	Philip Baker,
	Alfred B. Swift,	Simeon Gilbert.
3. *Albany*,	Samuel T. Seelye,	Frederick H. Hastings.
4. *Columbia*,	Samuel R. Dimock,	Jeremiah Carpenter.
5. *Catskill*,	Joseph P. Lestrade,	George Robertson.

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	John Waugh,	Asa Conkey.
2. *Watertown*,	Samuel L. Merrell,	Reuben E. Bacon.
3. *Oswego*,	Thomas A. Weed.	
4. *Utica*,	Moses C. Searle,	Nicoll H. Dering, M. D.,
	Charles Machin (2),	Alvan Bradley.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Geneva*,	Benj. M. Goldsmith,	Spencer Booth,
	William W. Taylor,	Squier B. Whitaker.
2. *Bath*,	George Spaulding.	
3. *Chemung*,	B. Foster Pratt,	Benjamin Stevens,
	Charles C. Carr,	Plyna Cobb.
4. *Ithaca*,	Peleg R. Kinne,	Herman Camp.
5. *Pennsylvania*,	Isaac F. Adams,	Wm. R. Shepherd (2).
6. *Lyons*,	Franklin S. Howe,	Zenas Wheeler.

IV. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

1. *Onondaga*,	Horace P. Bogue,	Elijah T. Hayden,
	Joseph Myers,	John Hobbie.
2. *Cayuga*,	Jon. B. Condit, D. D.,	Harmon Woodruff,
	John Tompkins,	Luther E. Davis.
3. *Cortland*,	James C. Smith,	Simeon Lucas.
4. *Tioga*,	William H. Goodrich,	Elias Hawley. [371]

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego*,	Stephen S. Goodman,	Aborn T. Bigelow, M. D.
2. *Chenango*,	George T. Everest,	John F. Smith.
3. *Delaware*,	Warren Mayo.	

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Genesee*,	George P. Folsom,	Eli Ellinwood.
2. *Ontario*,	Henry Kendall,	Jacob Bergen.
3. *Rochester*,	Jonathan Copeland,	Orlando Hastings.
	William A. Fox,	
4. *Niagara*,	Hiram Gregg,	Hon. Thos. T. Flagler (5).
5. *Buffalo*,	Albert T. Chester, D. D.,	Joseph H. Plumb,
	Asher Wright (2),	Eben R. Thompson (3).
6. *Angelica*.		

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson*,	Nathaniel E. Pierson,	George M. Newman.
2. *North River*,	O. H. Perry Deyo,	Benj. Vankeuren (3).
3. *Long Island*,	Epher Whitaker,	James Sell Skidmore.
4. *New York*, 3*d*,	Ed. F. Hatfield, D. D.,	Roe Lockwood,
	Sam. D. Burchard, D. D.,	John C. Hines,
	D. D. T. McLaughlin,	William C. Foote.
5. *New York*, 4*th*,	J. Parsons Hovey,	Henry Ivison.
	Frederick G. Clark.	
6. *Brooklyn*,	William Hogarth (2),	J. Milton Smith.
7. *Newark*,	Samuel L. Tuttle,	
	Robert Aikman.	
8. *Rockaway*,	Josiah Fisher (2),	John Dunning (2).
9. *Montrose*,	Henry A. Riley,	George Chapman.
	Elias O. Ward,	
10. *San Francisco*,	Eli Corwin.	

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Wilmington*,	Cornelius H. Mustard,	William D. Clark (2).
2. *Philadelphia 3d*,	Benjamin J. Wallace,	George W. Fobes,
	J. Glentworth Butler,	Hon. Joseph Allison (3).
3. *Philadelphia 4th*,	George Duffield, Jr.,	Saml. H. Perkins (2),
	Thomas J. Shepherd,	Alexander Whilldin (3).
4. *Harrisburgh*,	Wm. R. Dewitt, D. D. (3).	

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie*,	George W. Cleaveland,	Harmon Ensign.
2. *Meadville*,	George W. Hampson,	William W. Davidson.
3. *Pittsburgh*,	James Dickson,	Wm. C. Aughenbaugh.

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X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

1. *Detroit*,	Henry N. Bissell,	Hovey K. Clarke.
2. *Monroe*,	Erasmus J. Boyd (3),	Albert M. Baker (2).
3. *Marshall*,	S. Dwight Pitkin (2),	Edwin H. Johnson.
4. *Washtenaw*,	Gustavus L. Foster (2),	William M. Gregory.
5. *Kalamazoo*,	Joseph A. Ranney,	Elihu G. Hackley.
6. *Coldwater*,	Calvin Clark,	Chauncey N. Root.
7. *Saginaw*,	David M. Cooper,	Isaac N. Robinson.

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	Horace W. Palmer,	Ichabod Curtis.
2. *Portage*,	Levi B. Wilson,	George Stanley.
3. *Huron*,	Alfred Newton,	William Watson (2).
4. *Trumbull*,	Henry B. Eldred,	Henry Manning, M. D.
5. *Cleveland*,	Samuel C. Aiken, D. D.,	Hon. Hiram Griswold,
	James Shaw,	Elisha Taylor.
6. *Elyria*,	Ansel R. Clark,	John S. Case.
7. *Maumee*,	William W. Williams,	Mavor Brigham.

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Charles C. Hart,	Hon. Wm. P. Cutler.
2. *Pataskala*,	Charles M. Putnam,	Austin A. Guthrie.
3. *Franklin*,	Abner D. Chapman.	
4. *Scioto*,	James E. Vance,	Joseph Riggs.

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	D. Howe Allen, D. D.,	George L. Weed, M. D.,
	Samuel W. Fisher, D. D.,	Franklin King.
2. *Dayton*,	Franklin Putnam,	Robert W. Steele.
3. *Hamilton*,	Allen A. Jimeson,	Joseph Lewis.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	Charles Hutchinson.	
2. *Madison*,	Franklin E. Sheldon,	James R. Fisher.
3. *Indianapolis*,	George M. Maxwell,	Robert M. Todd.
4. *Greencastle*,	Joseph M. Sadd,	Elias Daggy.

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Crawfordsville,*	Isaac De Lamater,	Alex. Thompson (2).
2. *St. Joseph,*	Norman Kellogg,	Henry H. Coolege (2).
3. *Logansport.*		
4. *Fort Wayne,*	Andrew Loose,	John L. Knight (2). [373]

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois,*	Cyrus L. Watson.	
2. *Schuyler,*	George D. Young (2),	Clark B. Church.
3. *Wabash,*	Joseph Wilson,	Patrick Nicholson.
4. *Alton,*	Joseph Gordon,	John N. Adams.

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

1. *Ottawa,*	Newton Barrett.	
2. *Peoria and Knox,*	Joseph Fowler,	Ralph Ware.
3. *Galena,*	Harvey H. Hays, D. D.	
4. *Chicago,*	Lewis H. Loss,	Townsend Seeley, M. D.,
	Robert W. Patterson,	Reuben D. Jones.
5. *Belvidere,*	Morrison Huggins,	Joel B. Potter.
6. *Minnesota,*	Henry M. Nichols (4).	
7. *Milwaukee,*	George W. Elliott,	Anthony Green.
8. *Fox River,*	Lorrain Rood (3).	
9. *Columbus,*	Sidney H. Barteau.	

XVIII. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines,*		James Boyd (2).
2. *Iowa City,*	S. Storrs Howe,	William Stewart.
3. *Keokuk.*	Samuel K. Sneed,	Samuel Starkweather (2).
4. *Dubuque,*	James H. Trowbridge,	Richard Edwards.

XIX. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis,*	Timothy Hill,	Russell Scarritt.
2. *North Missouri,*	Thomas H. Tatlow.	
3. *Lexington,*	Elijah A. Carson,	Andrew J. Modie.
4. *Osage,*	Joseph V. Barks.	

XX. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester,*	Henry Mathews (2).	
2. *Dis. of Columbia,*	Jas. G. Hamner, D. D.,	Geo. W. Hutchins (2).
3. *Hanover,*	Isaac W. K. Handy,	Peachy R. Grattan.

XXI. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

1. *Harmony,*	Fincelius R. Gray,	John W. Cleland.
2. *Providence,*	Thomas H. Cleland,	Michael M. Shuck, M. D.
3. *Green River,*	Archer C. Dickerson.	[374]

XXII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union,*	Gideon S. White.	
2. *Holston,*	John B. Logan,	Robert P. Rhea.
3. *Kingston,*	William E. Caldwell.	
4. *New River,*	George Painter.	

XXIII. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *West Tennessee*,		Wm. O. N. Perkins (2).
2. *Shiloh*.		
3. *Richland*,	Frederick A. Ross, D. D.	

XXIV. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

1. *Clinton*,	Chas. M. Atkinson (2).	
2. *Lexington, South*,	Robert M. Morrison,	Ephm. R. McLean, M. D.
3. *Newton*,	Robert McLain (2),	Hon. J. F. Chester (2).
4. *Texas*.		

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

General Association of Massachusetts.	
General Association of Connecticut,	Rev. George J. Tillotson.
General Association of New Hampshire,	Rev. Samuel Lee.
General Association of New York.	
General Conference of Maine.	
General Convention of Vermont.	
General Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island.	
Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin,	Rev. Nathaniel D. Graves.
General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.	
Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.	
General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.	
General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church,	Rev. Andrew W. Black, D. D.
Union of the Evangelical Churches of France.	

The Stated Clerk also reported that Elder John Dunning had presented an irregular Commission from the Presbytery of Rockaway; which was referred to a *Committee*, consisting of Rev. Horace P. Bogue and Rev. Henry Kendall. [375]

The Committee reported that the name of Mr. Dunning be added to the Roll.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly proceeded to the election of a Moderator.

Whereupon Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., of Presbytery of Cincinnati, was chosen Moderator, and inducted into office in the usual form.

Rev. George Duffield, Jr., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, 4th, and Rev. Fincelius R. Gray, of the Presbytery of Harmony, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

The printed Minutes of the last Assembly were distributed among the members.

The docket of business was presented and read by the Stated Clerk.

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 9 o'clock A. M.

until 12½ o'clock P. M.; and from 3 o'clock P. M. to 5½ P. M.; and that the first half hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises under the direction of the Moderator.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow, to receive the Synodical Records, the Narratives and the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries, Overtures, memorials, appeals, and complaints.

The Assembly adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 22d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Rev.	Charles M. Atkinson,	of the Presbytery of	Clinton.
"	Josiah Fisher,	"	Rockaway.
"	Robert McLain,	"	Newton.
"	Henry Mathews,	"	Winchester.
"	Asher Wright,	"	Buffalo.
"	S. Dwight Pitkin,	"	Marshall.
"	Gustavus L. Foster,	"	Washtenaw.
"	Charles Machin,	"	Utica.
Elder	William D. Clark,	"	Wilmington.
"	George W. Hutchins,	"	Dist. of Columbia.
"	Samuel H. Perkins,	"	Philadelphia, 4th. [376]
"	Albert M. Baker,	"	Monroe.
"	Hon. John F. Chester,	"	Newton.
"	Alexander Thompson,	"	Crawfordsville.
"	William R. Shepherd,	"	Pennsylvania.
"	Samuel Starkweather,	"	Keokuk.
"	Timothy Beaman,	"	Champlain.
"	James Boyd,	"	Des Moines.
"	Henry H. Coolege,	"	St. Joseph.
"	John L. Knight,	"	Fort Wayne.
"	William Watson,	"	Huron.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—James G. Hamner, D. D., J. Parsons Hovey, Lewis H. Loss, Cyrus L. Watson. *Elders*—Geo. W. Fobes, Frederick H. Hastings, Austin A. Guthrie.

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—D. Howe Allen, D. D., Benjamin J. Wallace, S. D. Burchard, D. D., Thomas H. Cleland. *Elders*—Hon. Hiram Griswold, Orlando Hastings, Richard Edwards.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., George Duffield, Jr., George M. Maxwell, Timothy Hill. *Elders*—Nicoll H. Dering, M. D., Townsend Seeley, M. D., J. Milton Smith.

4. *Church Extension. Ministers.*—Robert W. Patterson, Archer C. Dickerson, Alfred Newton, Henry Kendall. *Elders*—Samuel H. Perkins, Roe Lockwood, Hon. William P. Cutler.

5. *Education. Ministers*—Jonathan B. Condit, D. D., Frederick G. Clark,

Gideon S. White, Ansel R. Clark. *Elders*—Robert W. Steele, William C. Foote, Robert P. Rhea.

6. *Publication. Ministers*—Albert T. Chester, D. D., Frederick A. Ross, D. D., J. Glentworth Butler, Samuel L. Tuttle. *Elders*—Henry Ivison, Aborn T. Bigelow, M. D., Reuben E. Jones.

7. *Devotional Exercises. Ministers*—Samuel C. Aiken, D. D., Henry A. Riley, William W. Taylor, D. D. T. McLaughlin. *Elders*—Elisha Taylor, Russell Scarritt, Harmon Woodruff. [377]

8. *Narrative. Ministers*—Thomas J. Shepherd, Robert Aikman, James H. Trowbridge, Charles M. Atkinson. *Elders*—Elijah T. Hayden, Joseph H. Plumb, George M. Newman.

9. *Leave of Absence. Ministers*—Selden Haines, William H. Goodrich, Charles Machin, Isaac W. K. Handy. *Elders*—Philip Baker, George W. Hutchins, Henry Manning, M. D.

10. *Mileage. Elders*—Hovey K. Clarke, John C. Hines, George L. Weed, M. D.

The Moderator also announced the Committees on the Synodical Records, as follows:

1. *Albany. Ministers*—Charles C. Carr, John Waugh. *Elder*—Spencer Booth.

2. *Utica. Ministers*—Jonathan Copeland, Samuel R. Dimock. *Elder*—John Hobbie.

3. *Geneva. Ministers*—James Shaw, Samuel L. Merrell. *Elder*—Reuben E. Bacon.

4. *Onondaga. Ministers*—Franklin S. Howe, Isaac F. Adams. *Elder*—Hon. John F. Chester.

5. *Susquehanna. Ministers*—Norman Kellogg, James C. Smith. *Elder*—Squier B. Whitaker.

6. *Genesee. Ministers*—Henry N. Bissell, John Tompkins. *Elder*—Benjamin Stevens.

7. *New York and New Jersey. Ministers*—Alfred B. Swift, Peleg R. Kinne. *Elder*—Alvan Bradley.

8. *Pennsylvania. Ministers*—Horace P. Bogue, Warren Mayo. *Elder*—Luther E. Davis.

9. *West Pennsylvania. Ministers*—Moses C. Searle, Chauncey H. Hubbard. *Elder*—Plyna Cobb.

10. *Michigan. Ministers*—B. Foster Pratt, Edward B. Chamberlin. *Elder*—Simeon Lucas.

11. *Western Reserve. Ministers*—Benjamin M. Goldsmith, George T. Everest. *Elder*—Elias Hawley.

12. *Ohio. Ministers*—Samuel K. Sneed, Eli Corwin. *Elder*—William D. Clark.

13. *Cincinnati. Ministers*—Nathaniel E. Pierson, Hiram Gregg. *Elder*—George Stanley.

14. *Indiana. Ministers*—George P. Folsom, Elias O. Ward. *Elder*—Harmon Ensign.

15. *Wabash. Ministers*—Charles Hutchinson, George W. Cleaveland. *Elder*—John S. Case.

16. *Illinois. Ministers*—Epher Whitaker, Joseph A. Ranney. *Elder*—Mavor Brigham. [378]

17. *Peoria. Ministers*—Joseph Wilson, Charles C. Hart. *Elder*—Jacob Bergen.

18. *Iowa. Ministers*—O. H. Perry Deyo, Allen A. Jimeson. *Elder*—Eli Ellinwood.

19. *Virginia.* *Ministers*—Henry B. Eldred, Joseph M. Sadd. *Elder*—Joseph Riggs.

20. *Missouri.* *Ministers*—S. Dwight Pitkin, Asher Wright. *Elder*—Albert M. Baker.

21. *Kentucky.* *Ministers*—Franklin Putnam, James Dickson. *Elder*—Ralph Ware.

22. *Tennessee.* *Ministers*—Charles M. Putnam, George W. Elliott. *Elder*—Clark B. Church.

23. *West Tennessee.* *Ministers*—Harvey H. Hays, D. D., Calvin Clark. *Elder*—William Stewart.

24. *Mississippi.* *Ministers*—Newton Barrett, Thomas H. Tatlow. *Elder*—Asa Conkey.

The Records of the Synods were presented, and put into the hands of the Committees appointed to examine them.

The Narratives and the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries, with several Overtures and memorials, were received, and put into the hands of the Stated Clerk, to be appropriately referred.

The whole subject of Mileage, after discussion, was referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

It was made the order of the day for this afternoon at 4 o'clock, to hear the annual report of the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

Also the first order of the day for to-morrow morning, to hear the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education for the Gospel Ministry.

The Assembly proceeded to determine the place for the meeting of the next Assembly, and made choice of the city of Chicago, Illinois. Rev. Lewis H. Loss, George M. Maxwell, and S. Dwight Pitkin, were appointed a Committee to designate the particular church, and to nominate the Committee of Arrangements.

It was made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning, to receive the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension.

The Treasurer's annual report was received, and referred to an *Auditing Committee*, consisting of Messrs. Samuel H. Perkins, Roe Lockwood, and Elisha Taylor.

The Trustees of the Presbyterian House presented their annual report, which was referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The Committee appointed to designate the church, and to nominate the Committee of Arrangements, for the meeting of the next Assembly, reported, recommending that the sessions be held in the Second Presbyterian church, or in such other place in Chicago, Illinois, as the Committee may designate; and that the Rev. Messrs. Robert W. Patterson, Harvey Curtis, Asahel L. Brooks, and Ambrose A. [379] Wight, and the Elders W. H. Brown, H. E. Seelye, and Sylvester Lind, be the *Committee of Arrangements*, with power to increase their number.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for the various pulpits in the city and vicinity, on the ensuing Sabbath; and also public services for the ensuing week.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 22d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Rev. George D. Young, from the Presbytery of Schuyler.
" William Hogarth, " " Brooklyn.
Elder Wm. O. N. Perkins, " " West Tennessee.

Reports were received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies, viz., from the Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Connecticut; Rev. Daniel W. Poor, the Delegate to the Evangelical Association of Rhode Island; Rev. George W. Warner, the Delegate to the Synod of the German Reformed Church; Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., the Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin; Rev. Elias R. Fairchild, the Delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire; Rev. Henry A. Rowland, D. D., the Delegate to the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States; Rev. Eber M. Rollo, the Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont; Rev. William R. Dewitt, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; Rev. William C. Wisner, D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of New York; and from Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., the Delegate to the General Conference of Maine.

The reports were accepted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day. The Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund presented their annual report. The report was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

A memorial from the Presbyterian Historical Society was presented, and referred to a special Committee, consisting of Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, James G. Hamner, D. D., Albert T. Chester, D. D., Robert W. Steele, and Orlando Hastings.

It was made the first order of the day for next Tuesday morning, to hear the Delegates from Corresponding Bodies; to be followed [380] by the reception of written communications from Corresponding Bodies.

It was made the first order of the day, for Monday morning, to hear the report of the special Committee, appointed, by a previous Assembly, to prepare a Digest; and also the first order of the day for Wednesday morning, to receive the report of the special Committee of the last Assembly, on Psalmody.

The Assembly recommended the observance of the first Monday of January, as a day of fasting and prayer, for the Conversion of the World; also, the last Thursday in February, as a day of prayer for Colleges.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported that fifty Presbyteries had taken action upon the Overture on the subject of Mileage; 31 answering in the affirmative, and 19 in the negative; and, as a majority of all the Presbyteries had taken no action upon the subject, that the Overture was not adopted. The whole subject was again referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday, May 23d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners and Delegates presented their credentials, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Rev. Lorrain Rood,	of the Presbytery of	Fox River.
Rev. William R. Dewitt, D. D.,	"	Harrisburgh.
Rev. Erasmus J. Boyd,	"	Monroe.
Elder Benjamin Van Keuren,	"	North River.
" Hon. Joseph Allison,	"	Phila., 3d.
" Alexander Whilldin,	"	Phila., 4th.
" Ebenezer R. Thompson,	"	Buffalo.

Rev. Nathaniel D. Graves, Delegate from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day.

The Permanent Committee on Education for the Gospel Ministry presented their annual report. The report was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Education, with instructions to print the plan and the resolutions, recommended by the Permanent Committee.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported the following order of services for the celebration of the Lord's Supper, on Thursday evening: [381]

1. The Moderator to preside.
2. Prayer and reading of the Scriptures, by the Rev. Alfred Newton.
3. Address and administration of the Bread, by the Rev. James G. Hamner, D. D.
4. Prayer and administration of the Cup, by the Rev. William R. Dewitt, D. D.
5. Address, by the Rev. William Hogarth.
6. Hymn and benediction, by the Moderator.

Also, that the distribution of the elements be committed to the following elders: Elisha Taylor, Hon. Hiram Griswold, William D. Clark, Samuel H. Perkins, Henry Ivison, and Russell Scarritt.

The Permanent Committee on Church Extension presented their annual report, which was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

The Assembly heard reports and statements concerning our Theological Seminaries: from the Auburn Theological Seminary, through Rev. Jonathan W. Condit, D. D.; from the Lane Theological Seminary, through Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D.; from the Maryville Theological Seminary, through Rev. Gideon S. White; and from the Union Theological Seminary, through Rev. James W. McLane, D. D.

The reports were accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Education.

It was made the first order of the day for next Thursday morning, to receive the reports on Synodical Records.

The Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Treasurer of the General Assembly, reported that they had examined them, with the accompanying vouchers, and found them correct. The report was adopted.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, made a report on the mileage and expenses of the present Assembly: pending its discussion the Assembly adjourned until Monday at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 25th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the calling of the Roll was dispensed with for this morning.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on the Digest presented their report, which was accepted, and referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

It was made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning, to hear the report of the Standing Committee on Education.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, viz., the report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church on the subject of Mileage. [382]

After discussion, the following plan for the mileage and expenses of the present Assembly was adopted as a substitute:

All sums, intended for the Contingent Fund, or the Commissioners' Fund, to be paid to the Mileage Committee, on or before the fifth day of the sessions of the Assembly.

Of this amount, seven hundred and fifty dollars ($750) to be paid to the Stated Clerk for the contingent expenses of the Assembly.

The Commissioners to present to the Mileage Committee, on or before the sixth day of the sessions, an account of their actual expenses, and the number of miles traveled in coming to the Assembly, together with an estimate of their necessary expenses on their return.

The Commissioners, whose Presbyteries have contributed a sum sufficient to pay their necessary traveling expenses, and the proportion due from the said Presbyteries respectively to the Contingent Fund, to be paid their expenses in full; the proportion to be estimated according to the number of communicants in each Presbytery.

The Commissioners whose Presbyteries have contributed, but not enough to pay their expenses, after deducting their proportion of the Contingent Fund, to be paid in the ratio of their contributions to the Fund applicable to the payment of mileage.

Rev. Messrs. Alfred Newton, Henry Mathews, and Benjamin W. Goldsmith, were appointed a *Committee to nominate a preacher* on Home Missions for the next Assembly.

A *Committee*, consisting of Rev. William R. Dewitt, D. D., Rev. Messrs. Archer C. Dickerson and Henry A. Riley, and Elders Nicoll H. Dering, M. D., and Hon. Joseph Allison, was appointed to *nominate Delegates* to Corresponding Bodies.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient for the Assembly to proceed to the election, for the present year, of Trustees of the General Assembly, and Directors of the Theological Seminaries.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 25th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioner presented his credentials, and his name was entered upon the Roll:

Rev. Henry M. Nichols, from the Presbytery of Minnesota.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented a report in answer to various memorials upon the subject of Slavery. The report was accepted, ordered to be printed, and its consideration made the first order of the day for to-morrow afternoon. [383]

Nominations for Trustees of the Presbyterian House were received, and the election was made the third order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported Overture No. 1, being a request from the Synod of Peoria for the erection of a new Synod.

The Committee recommend that the request be granted, and that the Presbyteries of Milwaukee, Fox River, and Columbus, now attached to the Synod of Peoria, be erected into a new Synod, to be called "The Synod of Wisconsin;" and that they hold their first meeting in Columbus, Wisconsin, on the third Thursday of October, 1857, at 7 o'clock P. M.; the oldest minister present to preach the sermon, and to preside until a Moderator be chosen.

The report was adopted.

Also, Overture No. 2, being a request from the Presbytery of San Francisco, for the division of that Presbytery, and the erection of a new Synod.

The Committee recommend that the request be granted: that the Rev. Messrs. Silas S. Harmon, Laurentine Hamilton, Walter Frear, and Edward B. Walsworth, together with the churches of Columbia, Sonora, Placerville, and Marysville, be constituted into a new Presbytery, to be called "The Presbytery of Sierra Nevada," to hold their first meeting at Sacramento, California, on Tuesday, October 6th, 1857, at 3 o'clock P. M.; and to be opened with a sermon by the oldest minister present, who is to preside until a Moderator be chosen.

That the Rev. Messrs. Samuel B. Bell, James Pierpont, William W. Brier, Eli Corwin, and Albert F. White, together with the churches of Oakland, Alameda, and Eden, be constituted into a new Presbytery, to be called "The Presbytery of San José," to hold their first meeting at Sacramento, California, on Tuesday, October 6th, 1857, at 3 o'clock P. M.; and to be opened with a sermon by the oldest minister present, who is to preside until a Moderator be chosen.

That the Presbyteries of San Francisco, Sierra Nevada, and San José, be erected into a new Synod, to be called "The Synod of Alta California;" to hold their first meeting at Sacramento, California, on Tuesday, October 6th, 1857, at 7½ o'clock P. M.; and to be opened with a sermon by the oldest minister present, who is to preside until a Moderator be chosen.

The report was adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 26th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the calling of the Roll was dispensed with for the remainder of the session. [384]

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly received an invitation, which was accepted with thanks, to visit the rooms of the Cleveland Library Association.

Communications were received from the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, and from the General Association of New Hampshire; also from the Delegate of the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

The Assembly proceeded to hear the Delegates from Corresponding Bodies in such communications as they desired to present; when the Rev. Samuel Lee, from the General Association of New Hampshire, and the Rev. Nathaniel D. Graves, from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, severally addressed the Assembly.

Resolved, That the communications from Corresponding Bodies, together with the reports of our Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, be referred to a *Special Committee*, consisting of Rev. William R. Dewitt, D. D., Rev. Henry Kendall, Rev. Timothy Hill, Hon. Joseph Allison, and Herman Camp, to report to this Assembly *on the terms of Correspondence* with other bodies.

Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace, Rev. John Patton, Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, John C. Farr, and Charles S. Wurts, were elected Trustees of the Presbyterian House.

The Standing Committee on Education presented a report in relation to the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education.

The report was accepted: pending its consideration, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 26th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Delegate presented his credentials, and his name was entered upon the Roll:

Rev. George J. Tillotson, from the General Association of Connecticut.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz., the consideration of the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures on the subject of Slavery. The discussion was continued until the time of the adjournment.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

The annual sermon on Home Missions was preached, agreeably to previous appointment, before the Assembly, on Tuesday evening, in the Second Presbyterian church, by the Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D., of the Presbytery of Buffalo. [385]

Wednesday, May 27th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a memorial on the subject of the Parish Psalmody, which was referred to the Committee on Publication. Also, a memorial on the Ashmun Institute, which was referred to the Committee on Education.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave had been given to Elder Jeremiah Carpenter.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz., the report of the Committee on Psalmody, which, with the memorial of the Committee of Detroit on the same subject, was referred to the Committee on Publication.

The following additional Commissioner presented his credentials, and his name was entered on the Roll:

Elder Hon. Thomas T. Flagler, from the Presbytery of Niagara.

The Judicial Committee reported that no business had been brought before them, and made request to be discharged, which was granted.

The Assembly proceeded to hear the Delegate from the General Association of Connecticut, who presented resolutions from said Association, which were referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of Tuesday morning, viz., the report of the Committee on Education, which was considered until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 27th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the unfinished business of the morning, viz., the report of the Committee on Education, which was discussed until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 28th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. [386]

The Rev. Andrew W. Black, D. D., presented his credentials as a Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America; his name was entered on the Roll, and the Assembly proceeded to hear his statements, and the terms of correspondence proposed by the General Synod; which were referred to the Committee on the Polity of the Church.

The same Committee were directed to inquire into the expediency of entering into correspondence with the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church.

The Committee on Church Extension presented a report in reference to the annual report of the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, having examined the report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, recommend the adoption of the following report:

We see, in the statements which are given by the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, abundant evidence that this Fund, according to the present plan of distribution, must prove a means of incalculable good to our missionary churches. We find, thus far, no reason to doubt that the most sanguine hopes of the contributors to this Fund will be fully realized.

In consequence of important changes in the relations of our Synods, since the first apportionment of the Fund was made, it is found expedient to vary the apportionment, at least for the ensuing year, so as to allow

To the Synod of Utica, 2 per cent. of the Fund.
" " Geneva, 2 per cent.
" " Genesee, 2 per cent.
" " Onondaga, 2½ per cent.
" " New York and New Jersey, 3 per cent.
" " Indiana, 4 per cent.
" " Wabash, 4 per cent.
" " Peoria, 6 per cent.
" " Wisconsin, 6 per cent.
" " Iowa, 8 per cent.
" " Missouri, 2 per cent.
" " Kentucky, 2 per cent.
" " Alta California, 7 per cent.

To render the security for loans in all cases satisfactory, the Trustees are hereby authorized, to require that the churches on which they take mortgages shall be kept insured, whenever they may deem this precaution necessary.

The following Trustees, whose term of office expires at the present time, are hereby nominated to serve for the term of three years: Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., and Norman White.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly, agreeably to previous order, proceeded to hear the reports

of the Committees on the Synodical Records; and, on the [387] recommendation of the respective Committees, the Records of the following Synods were approved as far as written: Albany, Utica, Geneva, Onondaga, Susquehanna, New York and New Jersey, West Pennsylvania, Michigan, Ohio, Cincinnati, Peoria, Iowa, Virginia, and Tennessee.

The Records of the Synod of Genesee were also approved, with the following exceptions:

1. Page 76: The Synod made two clerical members of Presbytery a quorum for transacting business.

2. Page 80: On entering upon judicial business, it does not appear that the Moderator enjoined upon the members, to regard their high character as judges of a court of Jesus Christ.

3. Page 89: The report of a committee is not recorded.

The Records of the Synod of Pennsylvania also were approved, with one exception, viz., "that it does not appear from the book, that the Records have ever been approved by the Synod."

The Records of the Synod of Indiana were also approved, with one exception, viz., that, on page 342, the Records of Greencastle Presbytery are reported as approved, with exceptions, while these exceptions are not spread upon the Minutes of the Synod, as required in Form of Government, Chap. VII., sec. 1, art. 3.

The Records of the Synod of Illinois were also approved, with four exceptions:

1. They contain no record of approval by the General Assembly since 1854.

2. They do not contain the Narrative on the State of Religion which was presented by the Committee on that subject at the sessions of the Synod in 1854: p. 434.

3. They do not contain the report of the Committee on Religious Exercises, mentioned on page 435.

4. They do not state the ecclesiastical connection of the Rev. Amasa Lord, who was invited to sit as a corresponding member: p. 440.

The Records of the Synod of Kentucky were also approved, with two exceptions, viz.:

1. That the Records have not been before the Assembly since 1854.

2. At a meeting in Midway, October, 1854, it was ascertained after a sermon, that there was not a quorum. The Record reads, that the Committee, the members present, adjourned, from time to time, until a quorum. Rule 2d reads: "If a quorum be not assembled, any two members may adjourn." This phrascology is preferable to that of a committee; as committees are only known as such when constituted officially.

The Records of the Synod of West Tennessee not being present, the Committee were discharged.

The Committee on the Records of the Synod of Mississippi made a report, and, pending a motion to postpone the adoption of the report, the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer. [388]

Thursday, May 28th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the consideration of the report of the Committee on the Records of the Synod of Mississippi, was resumed.

After some discussion, the previous question was moved and sustained; and the further consideration of the report on the Records of the Synod of Mississippi was postponed.

The Assembly proceeded to the unfinished business of Wednesday, viz., the report of the Committee on Education, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry, respectfully report, recommending the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. The General Assembly recognizes, with gratitude to God, the organization of the Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry, and the appointment of a General Secretary, Rev. Thornton A. Mills, D. D., who has entered on the duties of his office; also, the fact that the report of the Committee presents and enforces the foundation principles of this work, especially in its relation to churches and Presbyteries.

Resolved, 2. The Assembly, deeply impressed with the importance of a plan of action, which shall develop the resources of the whole Church, and bring each section of the Church to the work of training its own ministry, adopts the arrangement recommended in the report of the Permanent Committee, with some additions and alterations, in the following form:

1. It is the duty of the Church, in obedience to the Saviour's last command to preach the Gospel to every creature, to give constant and becoming attention to the increase of the ministry.

2. The Presbyterian Church, in its congregations, sessions, Presbyteries, Synods, and General Assembly, possesses a superior system of means for conducting this work in a most successful manner.

3. It is particularly desirable, that each Presbytery should make the subject of the ministry a topic of serious consideration in its stated meetings, at least once every year; and adopt arrangements, to have presented to the churches, through their own ministers as far as possible, the wants of our Church, our country, and the world, in this respect; to press on young men their duty to give themselves to this work; on parents their obligation to dedicate their children to it, and train them for it; and on individual churches their privilege and duty, to see that all their sons, who give promise of suitable qualifications for the ministry, are sought out and encouraged to enter it; to make adequate provision for the education of all such, as are in circumstances to need their aid, and who show by their characters and improvement that they are worthy of it; and to see that in each church an annual collection is made in behalf of this cause.

4. It is important, that the claims of the Christian ministry on pious [389] young men, in a course of education, should be publicly presented once every year in all the colleges within our bounds; and it is recommended that the General Secretary, in connection with the officers in these institutions, secure the performance of this service.

5. While the General Assembly does not design to interfere with the action of separate churches and Presbyteries, or the combined action of a number of them in their synodical capacity, it decidedly recommends its Permanent Committee as the bond of union and medium of co-operation in this work; and it is hereby urged upon each Presbytery and Synod, whether co-operating or not with that Committee, to forward, through its Stated Clerk, to said Permanent Committee, at some time in the month of April in each year, a full report of its doings, in reply to such questions as may be proposed to it; and the information so given shall be embodied in the annual report of the Committee to the General Assembly.

6. Each Presbytery, designing to co-operate with the Permanent Committee, shall appoint annually a Standing Committee on Education for the Ministry, whose duty it shall be, to examine and recommend, in the vacation of the Presbytery, such young men as require assistance from the funds at the disposal of the Permanent Committee; and to exercise over them such pastoral supervision as may be possible, while they are prosecuting their studies. And all such Committees are hereby enjoined, to give strict attention to the rules prescribed by the Permanent Committee, in any recommendation which they may make, so as to avert dishonor from this enterprise of the Church, and avoid the waste and misapplication of its funds.

7. Every Presbytery, co-operating with the Permanent Committee by presenting the subject to its churches annually, and taking collections to be paid to the general treasury, shall be entitled, as far as the means placed at the disposal of that Committee will allow, to receive aid for all candidates for the ministry under its care, however much the appropriations to them may exceed the contributions of such Presbytery.

8. It is recommended to all the churches so to arrange their contributions to benevolent operations, that the uniform time for that in behalf of education for the ministry shall be the Sabbath preceding, or succeeding, the last Thursday in February of each year, the day of the annual concert of prayer for colleges.

9. As it is desirable that this cause should assume a prominent and permanent place in the contributions of the churches, it is recommended, to those whom Providence has favored with means, to endow temporary scholarships, by the contribution of the requisite sum each year to assist a student through his theological course; or the contribution of such a sum each year to assist one through his literary and theological course; or by the establishment of permanent scholarships by donations or legacies, under the management of the Permanent Committee; and, to afford facility and security in doing this, the Permanent Committee are hereby directed, to apply to the Legislature of the State of New York for a suitable act of incorporation. And, until such act is obtained, individuals designing permanent gifts or [390] legacies, are requested to place them in the legal charge of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House in Philadelphia, for the use of the Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry.

10. The General Assembly would not claim any authority over the institutions where our ministry are educated; but it is hereby requested of the faculties of the Union and Auburn Theological Seminaries in New York, of Lane Seminary near Cincinnati, and Maryville Seminary in Tennessee, and of any other similar institutions hereafter established, to furnish the General Assembly each year, through its Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry, with a written statement of their condition, advantages, and prospects, the names of their professors, the ordinary yearly expenses, and any other matters of general interest to the Church, to be read to the Assembly, and published as an appendix to the annual report of the said Committee; and the General Secretary is hereby charged with the duty of presenting this request annually to said faculties, in time to receive their written reports before the meeting of the General Assembly.

Resolved, 3. This General Assembly approves the rules, adopted by the Permanent Committee, for aiding young men in their preparatory studies for the ministry, with some alterations, as fitted to prevent the introduction of incompetent and unworthy men to this office, and at the same time to afford suitable encouragement to those whose piety and talents give promise of

usefulness. When any alterations are made in these rules the Permanent Committee are requested to report the same to the General Assembly.

Plan for Aiding Beneficiaries.

1. Each applicant for assistance shall present a certificate of recommendation from a Presbytery, (or its Standing Committee on Education,) stating, that he has been in the communion of the church at least one year, and that he has been carefully examined as to his experimental piety, his motives for desiring the sacred office, his attachment to the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church, his general habits, his prudence, his talents, his studies, his gifts for public speaking, his need of assistance, his disposition to do all in his power to sustain himself, and his willingness to observe the rules of the Committee. Such certificate must also state, whether the candidate is in his academic, collegiate, or theological course, and the amount requisite to carry him through the first year.

2. While it is highly desirable, that all who receive assistance should be under the supervision of the Presbyteries to which they would naturally belong, and should be recommended by them, yet if, owing to the present position of the Education cause, or other important reasons, a Presbyterial certificate cannot be obtained, it may, at the option of the Permanent Committee, be substituted by a certificate of the same import, from any examining committee, appointed by them for such purposes, at any educational institution where the student is pursuing his course.

3. The amount granted to any applicant shall not, unless in very [391] peculiar circumstances, exceed one hundred dollars for the academic, one hundred and twenty dollars for the collegiate, and one hundred and forty for the theological course per annum, to be paid in quarterly instalments upon the return of schedules to be filled up by the student, and his instructors, and the approbation of the same by the Permanent Committee.

4. Each applicant shall give a receipt or acknowledgment to the Treasurer, for the amount which from time to time he may receive, promising to repay the same with interest, if he fail to enter upon the work of the ministry within a reasonable time, or turn aside to any secular pursuit; unless the Presbytery to which he belongs shall certify, that there are good reasons for his relinquishing the active duties of the office, and recommend the cancelling of the obligation.

5. Individuals receiving aid shall be under the pastoral supervision of the Presbyteries recommending them, and also of the General Secretary of the Permanent Committee; and will be expected to undergo renewed examinations on passing from one grade of their general course to another.

6. No payment shall be made in advance.

7. As the appropriations of the Committee are made on the principle of helping those who help themselves, and are insufficient for the entire support of a student, it is expected, that the student and his friends will make all proper exertions to assist in defraying the expenses of his education.

8. Each student aided is required to pursue a thorough course of study preparatory to a three years' course of theological studies, unless the Permanent Committee, and the Presbytery under whose care he is, in the exercise of a wise discretion, shall decide that his circumstances require that his studies shall be abbreviated.

9. When any student shall find it necessary to relinquish study for a time, to teach, or otherwise increase his means of support, he shall first obtain

the consent of the Permanent Committee; and, if he shall not be absent from study more than three months, his appropriations will be continued; but if longer, they will be discontinued, or continued in part, according to circumstances.

10. When a student has ceased, for a period longer than a year, to receive assistance from the Committee, he shall be required to produce new testimonials before his name can be restored to the roll.

11. When the official relation between a student and the Committee ceases, or is about to cease, he is required to notify the General Secretary of the fact, stating the reason.

12. The reception of an appropriation, by a student, shall be considered as expressing a promise, to comply with all the rules and regulations of the Committee.

13. If at any time there be discovered in any student such defect in capacity, diligence, prudence, and especially in piety, as would render his introduction into the ministry a doubtful measure, it shall be considered the sacred duty of the Committee to withdraw their appropriations. Students shall also cease to receive assistance, when their health shall become such as to unfit them for study, and for the [392] work of the ministry; when they are manifestly improvident, and contract debts without reasonable prospects of payment; when they marry; when they receive the assistance of any other Educational Committee; when they fail to make the regular returns; or cease, by change of circumstances, to need aid.

14. As all intellectual acquisitions are comparatively of little value without the cultivation of piety, it is expected and required of every candidate, to pay special attention to the practical duties of religion; such as reading the Scriptures, secret prayer and meditation; to attend upon religious meetings on the Sabbath, and during the week; to endeavor to promote the salvation of others; and to exhibit at all times a pious and consistent example.

Resolved, 4. While the Assembly feels the importance of a thorough organization of the Church, for the accomplishment of the work of Ministerial Education, it is at the same time deeply convinced that success will not attend the enterprise, unless the earnest efforts of its friends are united with prayer to God, that, by the abundant outpouring of the Spirit, the life of the Church may be made more vigorous, and large numbers of the youth of our land be converted to Christ.

Resolved, 5. The General Assembly recommends the observance of the last Thursday in February as a day of prayer for the blessing of God on our various institutions of learning.

Resolved, 6. That the election to fill the vacancies in the Permanent Committee be the first order of the day for Friday morning, and that the election be by ballot.

Resolved, 7. That the report of the Permanent Committee be published under their direction, and circulated through all the churches.

The same Committee reported the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the memorial of the Presbytery of Iowa City, on the subject of Christian Education, asking the General Assembly, through its Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry, to aid in erecting academies and collegiate institutions, be referred to that Committee, with instructions to consider and extend aid at their discretion during the year; and to report to the next General Assembly.

The same Committee also reported the following preamble and resolution, viz.:

Communications have been laid before the Standing Committee on Education, in relation to Ashmun Institute, in Pennsylvania, asking an expression of opinion by this Assembly in favor of its design. It is a seminary for the education of colored young men. It embraces a classical and theological training, especially fitting those trained to labor in Africa.

Testimonials are furnished, in reference to the excellent character of the Principal, and the success attending the first quarter of instruction. It is the judgment of the Committee, that the object is good, and this Assembly may express an opinion favorable to the general object. [393]

They recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That this General Assembly regard with favor the Ashmun Institute, recently established in Pennsylvania, which is designed to give a thorough classical and theological education to colored young men of piety, and thus fit them, as teachers and preachers of the Gospel, to promote the highest good of the African race.

The resolution was adopted.

The same Committee also reported the following minute in reference to Theological Seminaries.

The General Assembly has heard with interest the reports from the Auburn, Lane, and Union Theological Seminaries, and from the Literary and Theological Seminary at Maryville, Tenn. It appears that these institutions are enjoying a good degree of prosperity. Considerable progress has been made in improving their external condition; seminary buildings have been renovated and refurnished; liberal subscriptions have been made towards the endowment of professorships, as well as the establishment of scholarships for the aid of needy students. The faculties of these institutions are completely organized with able and devoted professors; a good degree of the missionary spirit prevails among the students; a kind and liberal sentiment is manifest towards these institutions in their several vicinities; and the Assembly has reason to believe, that the further necessities of these Seminaries will be as liberally regarded by the whole Church, as their claim is just and imperative.

The Assembly would record with deep regret the decease of the Rev. Isaac Anderson, D. D., late president of the institution at Maryville.

The minute was adopted.

A series of resolutions in reference to the inadequate support of the Gospel ministry, were read and placed on the docket.

The Assembly proceeded to the unfinished business of yesterday, viz., the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on Slavery.

Pending its consideration, the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 28th, 7½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, agreeably to previous arrangements, in the Second Presbyterian church, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and, in union with a large number of Christians, who accepted the invitation to participate with them, united in the celebration of this ordinance. [394]

Friday, May 29th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved.

The special Committee on the terms of correspondence with other bodies made a report, which was accepted, and placed upon the docket. The Rev.

Henry Kendall presented a minority report, which was also put on the docket.

The Committee on Mileage announced sufficient funds in their hands for all accounts that had thus far been presented by the Commissioners, which were ordered paid.

Rev. Conway P. Wing, the Delegate to the Reformed Presbyterian Church, made a report, which was accepted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, to whom was referred the terms of correspondence with the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, shall each appoint a minister with an alternate, to sit in the highest judicatories respectively, with the privilege of deliberating on all subjects coming before them, and of making suggestions on matters affecting the interests of both bodies mutually, or pertaining to the several interests of religion, but not of voting.

The ministers, members, and judicatories of these churches, treating each other with Christian respect, shall always recognize the validity of each other's acts and ordinances consonant to the word of God; it being understood, that any ecclesiastical judicatory belonging to either body may examine persons, or review cases of discipline, on points at present peculiar or distinctive to themselves respectively.

The same Committee also recommended that a correspondence on the same terms be opened with the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in the United States, and that a Delegate and alternate be appointed to attend their next meeting.

Their report was adopted.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Elders John L. Knight, of the Presbytery of Fort Wayne, and Alexander Whilldin, of the Fourth Presbytery of Philadelphia.

The Assembly proceeded to the first order of the day, viz., the election of five members of the Permanent Committee on Education, when, after nominations had been made, the following persons were chosen by ballot: Rev. John J. Owen, D. D., Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. William Hogarth, Hon. William Jessup, LL.D., and Jesse W. Benedict.

The second order of the day, viz., the election of three Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, was then taken up, and Rev. Asa D. [395] Smith, D. D., Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., and Norman White, were elected by ballot.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of yesterday afternoon, viz., the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures on Slavery, which was discussed until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 29th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures on Slavery, was resumed, and continued until near the time of adjournment.

Resolved, That, when the Assembly adjourn, they adjourn to meet this evening at 7¾ o'clock.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported Overture No. 3, being a request from the church of Niles, attached to the Presbytery of St. Joseph, and another from the Presbytery of Kalamazoo, for a transfer of churches.

The Committee recommend that the request be granted; that the State line be henceforward the boundary line between the Synods of Michigan and Wabash; and that, in accordance with this arrangement, the Rev. Alfred Bryant and the Rev. Elisha B. Sherwood, together with the churches of Niles, Edwardsburgh, Cassopolis, and Buchanan, be, and they hereby are, transferred from the Presbytery of St. Joseph to the Presbytery of Kalamazoo; and that the Rev. William Fuller, together with the churches of White Pigeon and Sturgis, be, and they hereby are, transferred from the Presbytery of St. Joseph to the Presbytery of Coldwater.

The report was adopted.

The Committee to nominate a preacher on Home Missions for the next year recommended the Rev. Jacob Little, D. D., of the Presbytery of Pataskala, principal; and the Rev. Henry A. Nelson, of the Presbytery of St. Louis, alternate.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on the Memorial from the Presbyterian Historical Society made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on the Memorial from the Presbyterian Historical Society respectfully report:

That the Society is composed of members of the following branches of the Presbyterian Church, viz.: Those represented by the two General Assemblies; the Associate Church; the Associate Reformed Church, and the two branches of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.

The Society at its last annual meeting agreed to memorialize the two General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church, on the subject [396] of commemorating, in some appropriate manner, the reunion of the Synods of New York and Philadelphia, which occurred in 1758. "Next year," the memorial observes, "would furnish a centennial celebration, whose good influence might be felt far and wide."

The reasons assigned for this union celebration in the memorial are, 1, That it would be a means of historical knowledge. 2, That it would be the expression of gratitude to God for the good resulting from the Union. 3, That "special moral lessons are suggested by the circumstances that led to the division of 1741, and the reunion of 1758;" and, finally, that it would afford an opportunity for cultivating a spirit of fraternal union.

It is proper to observe that the proposition for this union celebration came entirely from our brethren of the other branch of our Church, though cordially met, in the same spirit in which the proposition was made, by those members of our Church who belong to the Society. In view of which case the Committee recommend the following action, viz.:

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly are pleased to see, that the ministry and members of the churches under their care are cultivating a spirit of fraternal kindness towards the other branches of the Presbyterian Church.

2. That a centennial celebration of so signal an event in the history of our Church, as its happy reunion after seventeen years of separation, commends itself to us as interesting and useful.

3. That a Committee of five be appointed to make such arrangements in connection with the Executive Committee of the Presbyterian Historical

Society, for this commemoration, as may be appropriate, in case that the Assembly of the other branch of the Presbyterian Church take similar action.

The Moderator announced the Committee to be, Rev. Benj. J. Wallace, Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. George Duffield, Jr., Henry J. Williams, and Samuel J. Perkins.

Adjourned until 7¾ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 29th, 7¾ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, according to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the afternoon, viz., the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures on Slavery, was resumed and discussed until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at nine o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [397]

Saturday, May 30th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been given to Rev. Jonathan B. Condit, D. D., Rev. William Hogarth, Rev. Hiram Gregg, Harmon Woodruff, Henry H. Coolege, Isaac M. Robinson, and Rev. Charles Hutchinson.

The Permanent Committee of the General Assembly on Foreign Missions presented their annual report, which was adopted.

It was made the first order of the day for Monday, to receive the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Publication; the second order, to receive the report of the Committee on the Narrative; the third order, to elect members of the Permanent Committees; and the fourth, to receive the report of the Committee on Nominating Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

Rev. Nathaniel D. Graves, the Delegate from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, after a short address, to which the Moderator responded, respectfully took his leave.

The Committee of Arrangements invited the Assembly to make an excursion this afternoon to the environs of the city. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

The consideration of the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures on Slavery, was resumed and continued until the hour of adjournment.

Adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, June 1st, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Permanent Committee on Publication presented their annual report, which was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The Committee on the Narrative of the State of Religion made their

report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

Rev. David O. Allen, D. D., Rev. Albert Barnes, Jesse W. Benedict, John A. Brown, and Rev. J. Duché Mitchell, were elected members of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions; also, Mr. Lowell Holbrook, in place of the Rev. Henry Darling, resigned.

Rev. John Jenkins, Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, Samuel H. Perkins, Samuel T. Bodine, and Charles S. Wurts, were elected members of the Publication Committee.

The Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies [398] made a report, which was accepted, and pending its consideration, the Assembly adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, June 1st, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the consideration of the report of the Committee on Nominating Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, was resumed, and the report adopted, as follows:

General Association of Massachusetts—Rev. Albert T. Chester, D. D., principal; and Rev. Henry Darling, alternate.

General Association of Connecticut—Rev. William Adams, D. D., principal; and Rev. Gideon N. Judd, D. D., alternate.

General Association of New Hampshire—Rev. J. Parsons Hovey, principal; and Rev. Baruch B. Beckwith, alternate.

General Conference of Maine—Rev. J. Glentworth Butler, principal; and Rev. John Tompkins, alternate.

General Convention of Vermont—Rev. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., principal; and Rev. Alfred B. Swift, alternate.

Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin—Rev. Daniel C. Houghton, principal; and Rev. George I. King, alternate.

General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church—Rev Archer C. Dickerson, principal; and Rev. James M. Phillips, alternate.

General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church—Rev. James G. Hamner, D. D., principal; and Rev. George F. Wiswell, alternate.

General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church—Rev. Joseph Wilson, principal; and Rev. Albert Hale, alternate.

General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church—Rev. George Duffield, D. D., principal; and Rev. Thomas H. Robinson, alternate.

Union of the Evangelical Churches of France—Rev. Henry Smith, D. D., principal; and Rev. James M. Sherwood, alternate.

Synod of the German Reformed Church—Rev. Elias J. Richards, principal; and Rev. Charles J. Hutchins, alternate.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension presented their report, in relation to the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension. The report was accepted, and placed upon the docket.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures on Slavery, and continued its discussion until the time of adjournment.

Adjourned until 7¾ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [399]

Monday, June 1st, 7¾ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business, viz., the consideration of the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures on Slavery, was resumed, and, pending its discussion, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, June 2d, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that leave had been given to Rev. Thomas H. Tatlow and Elders John W. Cleland, Robert M. Todd, and Philip Baker.

The Standing Committee on Publication presented a report, which was accepted, and placed upon the docket.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church presented the following report:

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, to whom was referred the consideration of a permanent system of Mileage, present the following report:

The Constitution affirms that, "in order, as far as possible, to procure a respectable and full delegation to all our judicatories, it is proper that the expenses of ministers and elders, in their attendance on these judicatories, be defrayed by the bodies which they respectively represent."

The following recommendations are therefore submitted:

That each Presbytery be earnestly requested to contribute annually their full proportion towards the expenses of our General Assemblies.

That this proportion be determined by the number of communicants connected with the Presbytery.

That the rate, *per capita*, for the next Assembly, be five (5) cents for each communicant.

That each Presbytery be at liberty to apportion their quota among their churches as they shall deem best.

That the Standing Committee on Mileage, annually appointed, estimate and report the probable amount that will be needed to defray the necessary traveling expenses of the Commissioners, and the contingent expenses of the next succeeding Assembly, together with the rate that will be adequate. [400]

That, on or before the fourth day of the sessions of each Assembly, the amount thus contributed be paid to the Committee on Mileage, and a bill be presented by each Commissioner, of his necessary traveling expenses and mileage.

That these bills, having been duly audited by the Mileage Committee, be paid as fully as the funds will permit, after appropriating an amount sufficient to defray the contingent expenses of the Assembly.

That each minister and vacant church connected with those Presbyteries who have contributed their full quota to this fund, be entitled to a copy of the annual Minutes.

That, in order to avail themselves of the privileges of this plan, the Presbyteries must contribute and forward to the Assembly their full proportion of this fund as thus determined.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly resumed, and continued until the hour of adjournment, the consideration of the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures on Slavery.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, June 2d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, to whom was referred the report of the Committee on the Digest, recommended that the course pursued by the special Committee in the preparation of the Digest thus far, be approved by the Assembly.

That they be instructed to complete the work, according to the plan heretofore followed, and to use their discretion in relation to the questions proposed in their report.

That, when completed, it be submitted to the Permanent Publication Committee, and, if approved by them, be published under their direction.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church, to whom was referred the question, "Whether any three ministers of a Presbytery are a quorum to transact business?" reported an answer.

The report was accepted, and placed upon the docket.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of the morning, viz., the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures on Slavery. Its further consideration was postponed, and a substitute was introduced.

Pending its consideration, the Assembly adjourned until 7¾ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [401]

Tuesday, June 2d, 7¾ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the substitute to the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures on the subject of Slavery.

On the motion to postpone, the previous question was ordered, and the further consideration of the substitute was postponed.

Another paper upon the same subject was then introduced, and, pending its discussion, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow at 8½ o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, June 3d, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The traveling expenses of the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, (to Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, New York, Wisconsin, German Reformed Church, Reformed Presbyterian Church and Lutheran Church,) and of the last Moderator; the bills for printing and stationery; the janitor's bill; with the salary and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

Resolved, That the Minutes of this Assembly, with the usual Appendix, be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the paper upon the subject of Slavery, introduced last evening.

After amendment, the paper was adopted, and is as follows:

The General Assembly, in view of the memorials before them and of the present relations of the Church to the subject of Slavery, feel called upon to make the following exposition of principle and duty.

The Presbyterian Church in these United States has, from the beginning, maintained an attitude of decided opposition to the institution of Slavery.

The Synod of New York and Philadelphia, in 1787, two years before the organization of the General Assembly, declared that they did "highly approve of the general principles in favor of universal liberty that prevail in America, and the interest which many of the States have taken in promoting the abolition of Slavery;" and did "recommend it to all their people, to use the most prudent measures, consistent with the interest and state of civil society in the parts where they live, to procure eventually the final abolition of Slavery in America." [402]

In 1793, while the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church was in process of formation and publication, the action of the Synod, just referred to, was approved by the General Assembly and republished by its order.

The Assembly of 1815 declared, "that, although in some sections of our country, under certain circumstances, the transfer of slaves may be unavoidable, yet they consider the buying and selling of slaves by way of traffic, and all undue severity in the management of them, as inconsistent with the spirit of the Gospel. And they recommend it to the Presbyteries and sessions under their care, to make use of all prudent measures to prevent such shameful and unrighteous conduct."

The Assembly of 1815 "expressed their regret, that the slavery of the Africans and of their descendants still continues in so many places, and even among those within the pale of the Church;" and called particular attention to the action of 1795, with respect to the buying and selling of slaves.

In 1818, the Assembly unanimously adopted a report on this subject, prepared by Dr. Green of Philadelphia, Dr. Baxter of Virginia, and Mr. Burgess of Ohio, of which the following is a part:

"We consider the voluntary enslaving of one part of the human race by another as a gross violation of the most precious and sacred rights of human nature; as utterly inconsistent with the law of God, which requires us to love our neighbor as ourselves, and as totally irreconcilable with the spirit and principles of the Gospel of Christ, which enjoin, that 'all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.' Slavery creates a paradox in the moral system; it exhibits rational, accountable, and immortal beings in such circumstances as scarcely to leave them the power of moral action. It exhibits them as dependent on the will of others, whether they shall receive religious instruction; whether they shall know and worship the true God; whether they shall enjoy the ordinances of the Gospel; whether they shall perform the duties and cherish the endearments of husbands and wives, parents and children, neighbors and friends; whether they shall preserve their chastity and purity, or regard the dictates of justice and humanity. Such are some of the consequences of Slavery—consequences not imaginary, but which connect themselves with its very existence. The evils to which the slave is always exposed often take place in fact, and in their very worst degree and form; and where all of them do not take place, as we rejoice to say that in many instances, through the influence of the principles of humanity and religion on the minds of masters, they do not—still the slave is deprived of his natural right, degraded as a human being, and exposed to the danger of passing into the hands of a master, who

may inflict upon him all the hardships and injuries which inhumanity and avarice may suggest.

"From this view of the consequences resulting from the practice, into which Christian people have most inconsistently fallen, of enslaving a portion of their brethren of mankind—for God hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth—it [403] is manifestly the duty of all Christians who enjoy the light of the present day, when the inconsistency of Slavery, both with the dictates of humanity and religion, has been demonstrated and is generally seen and acknowledged, to use their honest, earnest, and unwearied endeavors to correct the errors of former times, and as speedily as possible to efface this blot on our holy religion, and to obtain the complete abolition of Slavery throughout Christendom, and if possible throughout the world."

The Assembly also recommended "to all the members of our religious denomination, not only to permit but to facilitate and encourage the instruction of their slaves in the principles and duties of the Christian religion;" and added: "We enjoin it on all church sessions and Presbyteries, under the care of this Assembly, to discountenance, and, as far as possible, to prevent, all cruelty of whatever kind in the treatment of slaves; especially the cruelty of separating husband and wife, parents and children, and that which consists in selling slaves, to those who will either themselves deprive these unhappy people of the blessings of the Gospel, or who will transport them to places where the Gospel is not proclaimed, or where it is forbidden to slaves to attend upon its institutions."

The foregoing testimonials, on the subject of Slavery, were universally acquiesced in by the Presbyterian Church up to the time of the division in 1838.

In the year 1846, the General Assembly made a declaration on this subject, of which the following is the introductory paragraph:

"1. The system of Slavery, as it exists in these United States, viewed either in the laws of the several States which sanction it, or in its actual operation and results in society, is intrinsically an unrighteous and oppressive system, and is opposed to the prescriptions of the law of God, to the spirit and precepts of the Gospel, and to the best interests of humanity."

In 1849 the Assembly explicitly re-affirmed the sentiments expressed by the Assemblies of 1815, 1818, and 1846. In the year 1850 the General Assembly made the following declaration: "We exceedingly deplore the working of the whole system of Slavery as it exists in our country, and is interwoven with the political institutions of the slaveholding States, as fraught with many and great evils to the civil, political, and moral interests of those regions where it exists."

"The holding of our fellow-men in the condition of Slavery except in those cases where it is unavoidable, by the laws of the State, the obligations of guardianship, or the demands of humanity, is an offence in the proper import of that term, as used in the Book of Discipline, Chap. I., sec. 3, and should be regarded and treated in the same manner as other offences."

Occupying the position in relation to this subject, which the framers of our Constitution held at the first, and which our Church has always held, it is with deep grief that we now discover, that a portion of the Church at the South has so far departed from the established doctrine of the Church in relation to Slavery, as to maintain that "it is an ordi[404]nance of God," and that the system of Slavery existing in these United States is Scriptural and right. Against this new doctrine we feel constrained to bear our solemn testimony. It is at war with the whole spirit and tenor of the Gospel of

love and good will, as well as abhorrent to the conscience of the Christian world. We can have no sympathy or fellowship with it; and we exhort all our people to eschew it as serious and pernicious error.

We are especially pained by the fact, that the Presbytery of Lexington, South, have given official notice to us, that a number of ministers and ruling elders, as well as many church members, in their connection, hold slaves "from principle" and "of choice," "believing it to be according to the Bible right," and have, without any qualifying explanation, assumed the responsibility of sustaining such ministers, elders, and church members, in their position. We deem it our duty, in the exercise of our constitutional authority "to bear testimony against error in doctrine, or immorality in practice, in any Church, Presbytery, or Synod," to disapprove and earnestly condemn the position, which has been thus assumed by the Presbytery of Lexington, South, as one which is opposed to the established convictions of the Presbyterian Church, and must operate to mar its peace and seriously hinder its prosperity, as well as bring reproach on our holy religion; and we do hereby call on that Presbytery to review and rectify their position. Such doctrines and practice cannot be permanently tolerated in the Presbyterian Church. May they speedily melt away under the illuminating and mellowing influence of the Gospel and grace of God our Saviour.

We do not, indeed, pronounce a sentence of indiscriminate condemnation upon all our brethren who are unfortunately connected with the system of Slavery. We tenderly sympathize with all those who deplore the evil, and are honestly doing all in their power for the present well-being of their slaves, and for their complete emancipation. We would aid and not embarrass such brethren. And yet, in the language of the General Assembly of 1818, we would "earnestly warn them against unduly extending the plea of necessity; against making it a cover for the love and practice of Slavery, or a pretence for not using efforts that are lawful and practicable to extinguish this evil."

In conclusion, the Assembly call the attention of the Publication Committee to this subject, and recommend the publication, in a convenient form, of the testimony of the Presbyterian Church touching this subject, at the earliest practicable period.

The vote upon its adoption was by Yeas and Nays, and was as follows:

Yeas.—Selden Haines, Edward B. Chamberlin, R. Oscar Barber, Timothy Beaman, Chauncey H. Hubbard, Alfred B. Swift, Simeon Gilbert, Samuel T. Seelye, Frederick H. Hastings, Samuel R. Dimock, Joseph P. Lestrade, George Robertson, John Waugh, Asa Conkey, Samuel L. Merrell, Reuben E. Bacon, Thomas A. Weed, Moses C. Searle, Nicoll H. Dering, M. D., Alvan Bradley, Charles Machin, [405] Benjamin M. Goldsmith, Spencer Booth, William W. Taylor, Squier B. Whitaker, George Spaulding, B. Foster Pratt, Benjamin Stevens, Charles C. Carr, Plyna Cobb, Peleg R. Kinne, Herman Camp, Isaac F. Adams, William R. Shepherd, Franklin S. Howe, Zenas Wheeler, Horace P. Bogue, Elizah T. Hayden, Joseph Myers, John Hobbie, John Tompkins, Luther E. Davis, James C. Smith, Simeon Lucas, William H. Goodrich, Elias Hawley, Stephen S. Goodman, Aborn T. Bigelow, M. D., George T. Everest, John F. Smith, Warren Mayo, George P. Folsom, Eli Ellinwood, Henry Kendall, Jacob Bergen, Orlando Hastings, William A. Fox, T. T. Flagler, Albert T. Chester, D. D., Joseph H. Plumb, Asher Wright, Ebenezer R. Thompson, George M. Newman, O. H. Perry Deyo, Epher Whitaker, James Sell Skidmore, Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Samuel D. Burchard, D. D., D. D. Tompkins McLaughlin, Roe Lockwood, John C. Hines, William C. Foote, J. Parsons Hovey, Henry Ivison, Frederick G.

Clark, J. Milton Smith, Samuel L. Tuttle, Robert Aikman, Josiah Fisher, John Dunning, Henry A. Riley, Elias O. Ward, George Chapman, Eli Corwin, Benjamin J. Wallace, George W. Fobes, J. Glentworth Butler, Hon. Joseph Allison, George Duffield, Jr., Samuel H. Perkins, William R. Dewitt, D. D., George W. Cleaveland, Harmon Ensign, George W. Hampson, William W. Davidson, William C. Aughenbaugh, Henry N. Bissell, Hovey K. Clarke, S. Dwight Pitkin, Edwin H. Johnson, Gustavus L. Foster, William M. Gregory, Joseph A. Ranney, Elihu G. Hackley, Calvin Clark, Chauncey N. Root, David M. Cooper, Horace W. Palmer, Ichabod Curtis, Levi B. Wilson, George Stanley, Alfred Newton, William Watson, Henry B. Eldred, Henry Manning, M. D., Samuel C. Aiken, D. D., James Shaw, Elisha Taylor, Hon. Hiram Griswold, Ansel R. Clark, John S. Case, William W. Williams, Mavor Brigham, Charles C. Hart, Charles M. Putnam, Abner D. Chapman, James E. Vance, Austin A. Guthrie, Joseph Riggs, D. Howe Allen, D. D., George L. Weed, M. D., Franklin King, Franklin Putnam, Robert W. Steele, Allen A. Jimeson, Joseph Lewis, Franklin E. Sheldon, George M. Maxwell, Joseph M. Sadd, Elias Daggy, Isaac DeLamater, Alexander Thompson, Norman Kellogg, Andrew Loose, Cyrus L. Watson, Clark B. Church, George D. Young, Joseph Wilson, Patrick Nicholson, Joseph Gordon, John N. Adams, Newton Barrett, Joseph Fowler, Ralph Ware, Harvey H. Hays, D. D., Lewis H. Loss, Robert W. Patterson, Townsend Seeley, M. D., Reuben D. Jones, Morrison Huggins, Joel B. Potter, George W. Elliott, Sidney H. Barteau, James Boyd, William Stewart, Samuel K. Sneed, James H. Trowbridge, Richard Edwards, and Timothy Hill.—169.

Nays.—Cornelius H. Mustard, William D. Clark, Hon. William P. Cutler, Samuel Starkweather, Elijah A. Carson, Andrew J. Modie, Joseph V. Barks, Henry Mathews, James G. Hamner, D. D., George W. Hutchins, Isaac W. K. Handy, Peachy R. Grattan, Fincelius R. Gray, Thomas H. Cleland, Michael S. Shuck, M. D., Archer C. Dickerson, Gideon S. White, John B. Logan, Robert P. Rhea, William E. Caldwell, George Painter, Frederick A. Ross, D. D., Charles M. [406] Atkinson, Robert M. Morrison, Robert McLain, and Hon. John F. Chester.—26.

Non Liquet.—Thomas J. Shepherd and S. Storrs Howe.—2.

A resolution upon the same subject was introduced. After discussion, its further consideration was, for the present, postponed.

Rev. James G. Hamner, D. D., presented, for himself and others, a protest, which, having been read, was ordered to be placed upon the Minutes, and is as follows:

We, the undersigned Southern ministers and ruling elders, protest against the present decision of the General Assembly.

We protest—Because, while past General Assemblies have asserted, that the system of Slavery is wrong, they have heretofore affirmed, that the slaveholder was so controlled by State laws, obligations of guardianship, and humanity, that he was, as thus situated, without censure or odium as the master. This averment in the testimony of past Assemblies has so far satisfied the South, as to make it unnecessary to do more than protest against the mere anti-slavery part of such testimony.

We protest then, now, That the present act of the Assembly is such an assertion of the sin of Slavery, as degrades the whole Southern Church—an assertion without authority from the word of God, or the organic law of the Presbyterian body.

We protest, that such action is, under present conditions, the virtual exscinding of the South, whatever be the motives of those who vote the deed.

We protest, that such indirect excision is unrighteous, oppressive, uncalled

for—the exercise of usurped power—destructive of the unity of our branch of the Church—hurtful to the North and the South—and adding to the peril of the union of these United States.

Fred. A. Ross,	Robt. P. Rhea,
Jas. G. Hamner,	F. R. Gray,
Isaac W. K. Handy,	M. S. Shuck,
Gideon S. White,	W. E. Caldwell,
George W. Hutchins,	E. A. Carson,
George Painter,	R. M. Morrison,
Henry Mathews,	Robert McLain,
John F. Chester,	A. J. Modie,
J. V. Barks,	Peachy R. Grattan,
J. B. Logan,	Thomas H. Cleland,
C. M. Atkinson,	Archer C. Dickerson.

A *Committee*, consisting of Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., Rev. Robert W. Patterson, Rev. Henry Kendall, Hon. Joseph Allison and Orlando Hastings, were appointed *to answer the* above *protest.*

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [407]

Wednesday, June 3d, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been given to Rev. Messrs. Robert M. Morrison, Asher Wright, J. H. Trowbridge, W. W. Taylor, C. C. Carr, B. Foster Pratt, H. N. Bissell, S. R. Dimock, A. D. Chapman, J. B. Logan, M. Huggins, M. C. Searle, C. Machin, S. L. Merrell, Joseph Gordon, F. S. Howe, G. D. Young, C. M. Atkinson, E. O. Ward, S. S. Goodman, and George Painter; with the Elders, W. R. Shepherd, Simeon Gilbert, William Stewart, Plyna Cobb, B. Stevens, William P. Cutler, R. D. Jones, R. P. Rhea, M. Brigham, Patrick Nicholson, George Robertson, John N. Adams, J. F. Smith, J. H. Plumb, E. R. Thompson, J. S. Skidmore, E. Daggy, W. D. Clark, A. Thompson, Aborn T. Bigelow, M. D., and A. A. Guthrie.

The Mileage Committee presented their report, as follows:

The Committee on Mileage respectfully report:

That eighty-three (83) Presbyteries have contributed to the funds of the Assembly, at its present session, the sum of $3363.23.

That twenty-eight (28) Presbyteries have made no contribution, namely: the Presbyteries of Troy, Columbia, Oswego, Cortland, Otsego, Chenango, Angelica, Montrose, San Francisco, Saginaw,* Grand River, Portage, Elyria, Franklin, Hamilton, Crawfordsville, Logansport, Fort Wayne, Schuyler, Providence, Green River, Union, West Tennessee, Shiloh, Richland, Clinton, Lexington, South, and Texas, ($134.75).

That forty of the Presbyteries, having contributed to the funds of the Assembly, have presented accounts for their traveling expenses, amounting in the aggregate to the sum of $2294.33, all of which have been paid.

That four Presbyteries which have contributed to the funds, and are included in the 83 Presbyteries above mentioned, are delinquent in paying the amount assessed to them under the rule of the Assembly for their proportion of the Contingent Fund, namely: Ithaca, $2.20; Genesee, $2.35; Winchester, $1.60; and New River, 90c.

* Though nothing has been paid by the Saginaw Presbytery, nothing is in fact due, its members having been reckoned in and assessed as of the Detroit Presbytery.

The whole amount paid in is	$3363.23
The whole amount paid Commissioners	2294.53
	$1068.70

Leaving, subject to the order of the Assembly, in the hands of the Mileage Committee, one thousand and sixty-eight dollars and seventy cents.

Schedule A, herewith reported, exhibits the amount of the Contingent Fund assessed to each Presbytery, the amount paid by each, and the amount paid to the Commissioners of each. [408]

Schedule B, herewith reported, exhibits the amounts receipted by each Commissioner to whom payments were made.

The report was adopted, and the balance in their hands was ordered to be paid to the Stated Clerk for the Contingent Funds of the Assembly.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Committee on the terms of correspondence with other bodies, and, after discussion, the minority report was adopted and is as follows:

Whereas, Several of the associations, in correspondence with this body, have requested the views of this Assembly on the terms of correspondence, especially in regard to the right of reproof and rebuke, therefore,

Resolved, That the General Assembly have never intended to refuse to corresponding bodies any rights or privileges which are compatible with true delicacy, courtesy, and Christian charity; in the light of which, this body respectfully requests all corresponding bodies to interpret all past acts of the Assembly.

The report of the Committee on the Records of the Synod of Mississippi, recommending their approval, as far as written, was adopted.

The Committee appointed to prepare an answer to the protest of Rev. James G. Hamner, D. D., and others, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

Answer to the Protest.

In reply to the protest against the action taken by the Assembly on the subject of Slavery, the Assembly make the following remarks:

1. The present action of the Assembly on this subject is in perfect harmony with the testimonies of former Assemblies, and consists chiefly in a re-affirmation of those testimonies. The General Assembly has never "affirmed that the slaveholder was so controlled by State laws, obligations of guardianship and humanity, that he was, as thus situated, without censure or odium as the master." It has only conceded, that certain exceptional cases may exist, such as are defined in the resolutions of the Assembly of 1850, and approved by this Assembly.

2. We see nothing in the present action which is unconstitutional, or which "degrades," or even reflects upon, any portion of the Southern Church, which still abides by the old doctrine of the Presbyterian Church in relation to this subject.

3. With respect to the complaint, "that such action is, under present conditions, the virtual exscinding of the South," the Assembly observe, that no such excision is intended, and we cannot perceive that it is in any wise involved even by remote implication. We have simply re-affirmed the established views of the Presbyterian Church on the subject of Slavery, and distinctly condemned the new and counter doctrines which have been declared and defended by some within our bounds.

4. With regard to the allegation, that our action in this case is "unrighteous, oppressive, uncalled for," usurpatory and destructive of [409] great

interests, we need only say, that it rests on the groundless assumption, that this action is an "indirect excision" of the South. If our Southern brethren shall break the unity of the Church, because we stand by our former position, as in duty bound, the responsibility for the consequences will not rest on the Assembly.

The Assembly proceeded to consider the report of the Standing Committee on Church Extension, in relation to the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension.

The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, having examined the report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension, only deem it necessary to recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That while this General Assembly would make no change in the general basis of our operations in the department of Church Extension, yet in view of the fact that, as experience shows, great and perplexing delays are found to result, in many cases, from a literal and rigid adherence to the restrictions under which the Committee on Church Extension have acted hitherto, they are hereby authorized to exercise their discretion, in relation to such applications for aid, as may seem to require prompt and immediate action.

Resolved, 2. In view of the rapid growth of the population in the newer sections of our country, and the consequent demand for explorations, and the establishment and support of churches, that a large increase in the funds of the Committee is imperatively needed for the prosecution of their work during the coming year; and that it is hereby recommended, to all the churches in our connection, to make this one of their regular objects of annual contribution.

Resolved, 3. That a Committee of nine be appointed at this time to confer with the Executive Committee of the American Home Missionary Society, in reference to our relations with that Society.

The following persons are hereby nominated for appointment in the place of those members of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension whose term of office expires at the present time, viz.: Joseph B. Sheffield, Thomas P. Sparhawk, Hon. Joseph Allison, Benjamin J. Wallace, S. W. Fisher, D. D.

The above nomination was confirmed by the Assembly.

Messrs. Roe Lockwood, William A. Booth, and J. Milton Smith, were appointed the Committee to audit the accounts of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 4, relating to the recent action of the American Home Missionary Society, in respect to churches having slaveholding members. The Committee recommend that the subject be referred to the Committee of Conference with the American Home Missionary Society.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly took from the docket the report of the Standing Publication Committee, in relation to the annual report of the Per[410]manent Committee on Publication. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Publication, to whom was referred the fifth annual report of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, the third annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, and several other papers, report to the Assembly, as the result of the examination which they have had an opportunity of giving to these documents, recommending the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the General Assembly express their gratitude to the great Head of the Church, for the prosperity of the publication cause, now relieved from its embarrassments, and placed upon a permanent foundation.

2. *Resolved*, That the General Assembly notice with pleasure the manifestation of promptness and liberality in the President of the Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian House, John A. Brown, Esq., of Philadelphia, who, by a munificent donation, has secured to the Trustees the legal title of the Presbyterian House.

3. *Resolved*, That the power of the press, in promoting true piety and a wide-spread intelligence among our population, is an instrumentality appointed of God, and now put into our hands, to be employed for the advancement of the general interests of religion, and for the prosperity of our own denomination.

4. *Resolved*, That the Publication Committee be encouraged to publish not only such works as may present the peculiarities of our branch of the Christian Church in doctrine and practice, but, from time to time, such works of an evangelical character as may be profitable to the Church at large.

5. *Resolved*, By the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, that "The Trustees of the Presbyterian House" be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed to act in their corporate capacity as Trustees of the Permanent Committee of this Assembly, called "The Presbyterian Publication Committee," as fully and in the same manner, as if "The Presbyterian Publication Committee" were themselves constituted a corporation by the same authority which incorporated "The Trustees of the Presbyterian House."

6. *Resolved*, That we recognize, with gratitude to God, the completion of the labors of the Publication Committee, by which the Assembly is furnished with a book of psalmody which they can call their own, the profits of which will materially aid the funds of the Church in the Publication cause; and the Assembly hereby recommend, to the pastors and the churches, that they use all reasonable diligence in promoting uniformity, by the introduction of this book.

7. *Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed by the Publication Committee, to prepare a book of tunes adapted to the "Church Psalmist," and that this Committee be instructed to consult and correspond with pastors and leaders of choirs in the churches, as to the particular tunes most in use and most popular in the congregations; and that this Committee report to the next General Assembly. [411]

8. *Resolved*, That the preparation of an appendix to the "Church Psalmist," of such hymns as may be necessary to make the work complete, be committed to N. S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. Albert Barnes, and S. W. Fisher, D. D., and that this Committee report to the next General Assembly.

9. *Resolved*, That the Committee appointed by the last General Assembly to prepare an arrangement of the Book of Psalms for chanting, a specimen of which is presented with their report, be directed, in the completion of their work, for the sake of bringing the book into as small compass as possible, to leave out the titles of the psalms, and all comments upon the text, and only arrange the words to the music; and in publishing the work, the copy of an English print, accompanying the report, is commended as a model.

10. *Resolved*, That as the publisher of the "Parish Psalmody," in a memorial made to the Assembly, seems to suppose that he has some pecuniary

claim upon the Assembly, though the Permanent Committee of Publication, to whom this subject has been referred, have decided that there is no just claim, yet, as a Christian method of answering the memorial and settling the question in dispute, the whole subject be referred to a Committee, to report to the next General Assembly in respect to this claim; of which Committee one shall be appointed by said publisher, one by the Permanent Committee of Publication, and the third by these two.

11. *Resolved*, That the Treasurer's accounts of the Publication Committee, and of the Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian House, which have been presented duly audited, be approved.

12. *Resolved*, That it be enjoined upon all our churches to make an annual collection for the Publication cause, in the month of October.

13. *Resolved*, That an annual sermon be preached before the General Assembly, on the subject of Publication, and that for the next year Rev. Albert Barnes be the preacher, and Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., be the alternate.

The Moderator and Stated Clerk were directed to sign, on behalf of the Assembly, "An address from American Christians to the Evangelical Conference which is to be held in Berlin, in the month of September, 1857," a copy of which was presented to the Assembly; and the Rev. Henry Smith, D. D., was requested to represent the Assembly in that conference.

The report of the Committee on the Polity of the Church, to whom was referred the consideration of the question, "Whether any three ministers of a Presbytery are a quorum to transact business?" was postponed.

Hon. Joseph Allison and Rev. Henry A. Riley presented a protest against the appointment, by the Assembly, of a Delegate to the Synod of the German Reformed Church; which was ordered to be placed upon the Minutes, and is as follows:

The undersigned protest against the action of the Assembly, in appointing delegates to the Synod of the German Reformed Church:

Because they believe the said Church has departed from sound or- [412] thodoxy in many particulars, especially upon the baptismal and sacramental questions.

Because the German Reformed Church in this country has become in many respects Romanizing in its policy and doctrine.

Because the Synod of said Church, at a late session, adopted a report of a Committee of their own body, which in effect denied the special influences of the Holy Spirit.

Jos. Allison.
Henry A. Riley.

The Delegate to the Synod of the German Reformed Church was directed to make inquiries of the Synod upon the subjects contained in this protest.

Adjourned until 7¾ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, June 3d, 7¾ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the consideration of a series of resolutions, previously presented, in reference to the inadequate support of the Gospel ministry. After discussion, they were indefinitely postponed.

The following resolution, introduced in the morning, was adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee of ten be appointed, four of whom shall be members of Presbyteries where Slavery exists, whose duty it shall be, to meet and confer together in reference to the means which may be safely and properly employed to remove slaveholding from our churches; and that the Committee report, to the next General Assembly, whether any, and what means can, in their judgment, be effectually employed for this purpose, with the concurrence and co-operation of our Southern brethren; and if, in their judgment, no such means can be employed, that the Committee recommend such measures as they deem best calculated to secure the permanent peace and prosperity of all our churches.

Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. Robert W. Patterson, Rev. Archer C. Dickerson, Rev. A. H. H. Boyd, D. D., Rev. James G. Hamner, D. D., Rev. Isaac W. K. Handy, Rev. James P. Wilson, D. D., Rev. M. L. R. P. Thompson, D. D., Hon. Joseph Allison, and Hon. Wm. Jessup, LL.D., were appointed the above *Committee*.

The Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. William C. Wisner, D. D., Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., Rev. Harvey Curtis, Rev. Timothy Hill, Samuel H. Perkins, and Cyrus P. Smith, were appointed the *Committee of Conference with the Home Missionary Society*.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be presented to the [413] Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., for the very dignified and impartial manner in which he has presided during the deliberations of this body; and for the courteous and Christian bearing, which, in his official capacity, he has constantly maintained during the exciting debates of the present sessions.

Resolved, That the thanks of the General Assembly be presented to the numerous railroad companies who have forwarded and returned the members of this Assembly, at a reduced price, on their way to and from this city.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the citizens of Cleveland, for the generous hospitality extended to the Commissioners, and others in attendance, which has rendered their stay in the Forest City so peculiarly pleasant; with the assurance of our fervent prayer, that the blessing of the God of peace may rest upon them.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be returned to the Committee of Arrangements, for their promptness and activity in providing for our comfort.

Also, that the thanks of this Assembly be returned to the Trustees of the Second Presbyterian church, for the accommodations extended to the Assembly during its present sessions.

Also, to the Press, for its full and minute report of the proceedings of the Assembly during its sessions.

The Minutes of the session were read and approved.

The calling of the Roll was dispensed with.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for the dissolving of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved; and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the Second Presbyterian church, or some other church designated by the Committee of Arrangements, in the city of Chicago, Illinois, on the third Thursday of May, 1858, at 11 o'clock A. M.

HENRY DARLING, *Permanent Clerk.*

Cleveland, June 3d, 1857.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1857.

Of the one hundred and eleven Presbyteries constituting the General Assembly, seventy-five have furnished Narratives of their religious state.

It is impossible to read these Narratives without emotion. They come from every section of our land. They reflect the sentiments of earnest men in widely differing circumstances. They show the most affecting contrasts in outward condition and gracious life. They image with singular distinctness the varying fortunes of Christ's army. They seem to bring one into close, sacred contact with Christ's body. They make one feel, almost without figure, the throbbings of Christ's heart.

In reading these Narratives and grouping their vast mass of facts together, we note, with high satisfaction, and grateful recognition of Jehovah's covenant faithfulness, that, despite all oppositions and discouragements, despite the worldliness of many who profess Christ's name, the enmity of unregenerate hearts to holiness and truth, the ignorance, delusion, infidelity, depraved appetite, and especially the agitations of our times, the Church, the past year, has made decided progress. We cannot give, in full, the proof of what we thus affirm. We simply state some few undoubted illustrations of augmenting power.

Advance in Contributions.

First, then, among the evidences of an increasing vigor and efficiency in our denomination, we specify a large advance in contributions to church purposes and the common objects of benevolence. Scarcely a Presbytery has omitted to record the erection or repairment of church edifices, in many instances at great cost. Some Presbyteries speak cheeringly of recent liquidations of church debts. Some tell of houses built or building to supply their ministers with homes. Some specify such church-extension enterprises as involve considerable expenditures, which yet are freely met by a generous, liberal-minded membership. And all, without exception, witness to a growing interest, as shown the past year by money gifts, in the numerous agencies for evangelizing our country and the world. These varied contributions are frequently referred to in the Narratives, without the slightest data for an estimate of their aggregate amount. It is confidently believed, that in no one year has their sum been as great as in the year just closed. It is much to be regretted that our published statistics of benevolent contributions are so imperfect, as to be almost worthless for an annual comparison.

Greater Activity in Christian Labors.

A second evidence of an increasing vigor and efficiency in our denomination is an activity, greater than before reported, in labors for Christ. These labors are of different kinds; some long recognized and stamped with the emphatic sanction of experience; some recently begun, yet proving fully their adaptedness to the peculiar aspects of our work.

Among these labors, those connected with the religious training of the young, hold a place of special prominence. The Presbyterial Narratives reveal the fact, that the past year has witnessed unprecedented numbers of the young collected into Sunday-schools and Bible-classes. From some

statistics embodied in these Narratives, we estimate, that not less than one hundred and fifty thousand youth, each Sabbath day, are brought under the direct influence of the Scriptures and the sanctuary. Nor is evidence wanting, that this influence is attended by the special power of the Holy Ghost. "In one church," we are told, "where, as the fruit of a recent revival, some forty persons are indulging hope of having passed from death to life, almost every one of the forty is either a Bible-class or Sabbath-school scholar, and the average age of the converts is only sixteen years."

Not only in the Sunday-schools and Bible-classes long established is this activity in Christian labors shown, but the past year has witnessed an unusual enterprise and zeal, among the churches in cities and large towns, to seek out the children of the poor and wretched, and collect them into mission schools. This effort is connected with another of great promise. A systematic visitation of the families neglecting the sanctuary has been begun, in many places, with the happiest results. The uniform testimony of the Presbyteries, reporting facts in this connection, is that the effort has furnished professed Christians an important means of grace, whilst it has added very largely to the attendance in the schools and in the churches. It has had, moreover, the seal of God's approval. Not a few of the wanderers out of the way have been reclaimed, and brought to blessed fellowship with the Father and his Son Jesus Christ.

This increased activity, which over all the Church is beginning to display itself, finds an additional illustration in those Presbyteries which are brought into contact with slaves. The heart of Christian love is evidently yearning over those who are in bonds. One Presbytery testifies: "Within the bounds of our churches, the Gospel is regularly and with effect dispensed by our ministers to the slave population." Another Presbytery reports: "The pastors and elders of the churches hold repeated meetings for the colored people, wherever they seem to be called for, while these people are always welcome in all our congregations." And still another Presbytery says: "There is considerable preaching to the colored people." These are but specimens of similar statements. We record them with great pleasure, as evidencing that, amid the conflicts of opinion and the strifes of parties, the claims of a dependent people to share with others the blessings of the Gospel, are not overlooked.

Another illustration of increased activity in labors for Christ is found, in the inauguration by many Presbyteries of such missionary arrangements, as promise to supply the destitutions in their respective fields. The feeling is becoming stronger year by year, that every Presbytery must occupy the wastes that lie around it; that, whilst the field is the world, there is a special obligation to begin at Jerusalem. The past year has brought out this feeling in new forms. We regard the fact as foreshadowing the true policy of such a Church as ours, and as the precursor of good things to come. We know nothing more touching than the simple story, in some of the Narratives, of enterprises undertaken, sacrifices made, toils encountered, burdens borne, in order that an empire, the grandest that the sun looks down upon, may be won for Christ.

Growing Permanency in the Pastoral Relation.

A third evidence of an increasing vigor and efficiency in our denomination is the growing permanency in the pastoral relation. We have been especially struck with the indications of this fact embodied in the Narratives. Presbyteries in every section of the country speak of "a growing sentiment in the

churches," that the ministry is entitled to better pecuniary support than heretofore afforded. They tell us that quite a number of the churches have, the past year, added liberally to salaries; because it is beginning to be seen and felt, that one grand cause of sundered pastorates is the cruel poverty, to which too many pastors have been thoughtlessly doomed. They tell us, that the conviction is becoming general in some quarters, that, if the churches would secure God's blessing, they must first be just to God's laborious servants. They give, in this connection, emphatic testimony to the greater efficiency of those churches where the pastors are well supported. They express, in numerous instances, their satisfaction, that the pastoral relation exists between so many of their ministers and churches, and their purpose to discourage mere supplies. They declare, that the tendency to change is giving way to sentiments, conditioning the best church growth upon the permanent co-operative toils of pastors and their flocks.

We hail this utterance of the Presbyteries with unfeigned joy. We account it full of precious blessing. We believe that nothing would so enlarge, establish, and bless our Zion as to settle faithful pastors in all our churches, and to make the relation permanent by generous support and cordial co-operation.

Growth of Healthy Denominational Feeling.

A fourth evidence of an increasing vigor and efficiency in our denomination, is the rapid growth of a healthy denominational feeling. This growth is confined to no locality, but reveals itself in every section of the Church. A Presbytery in the extreme North-west says: "We are growingly denominational." A Presbytery in the extreme East says: "On every hand, there are the most gratifying indications, that our people are beginning to act with efficiency, from an intelligent conviction that our Church ought to do her own work." A Presbytery midway been the Hudson and the Mississippi says: "The churches present nothing indicating a want of unity and harmony, or of confidence in the principles, doctrines, and order of our branch of the Presbyterian Church. A more thorough acquaintance with its genius and mission has tended to strengthen and confirm our faith in, and to increase our attachment to, its doctrines and polity." Still another Presbytery, in a locality quite remote from those just cited, and representative of a large, important section of the Church, thus writes: "As a Presbytery we would record with gratitude our conviction, that there is among us an increasing sympathy for, and co-operation with, our beloved Zion, in her attempts to meet her weighty responsibilities."

These oft-repeated declarations of attachment to our denomination find abundant confirmation in the Narratives. It is especially encouraging to note, that many Presbyteries, in every part of our extended field, bear willing testimonies to the wisdom and necessity of those great plans of church development, which our Assemblies, the few past years, have been laboriously perfecting. The feeling evidently is, that our Church is summoned to a work which she must do, or fail in loyalty to Christ. The indications plainly are, that common sentiments and sympathies, like some vital force, are beginning to pervade our Zion, and to constrain her sons to pray: "Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces."

Longing for Revivals.

Another and the last evidence, that we cite, of an increasing vigor and efficiency in our denomination is, the intense longing, breathed through all

the Narratives for a general, glorious outpouring of the Spirit. The past year has not been one which may be characterized as a year of revivals, although many churches in many Presbyteries have been greatly quickened, and some have been favored with spiritual influences of extraordinary power.

But where God has sent and has withheld these gracious showers, the feeling is alike profound, that nothing can or should content the Church but floods of light and love, which, sweeping away the Church's worldliness, shall bear on ample tide "the fullness of the Gentiles" unto Christ. One Presbytery says: "The dearth of revival influences is alarming." Another writes: "To our enlargement and highest edification, revivals are indispensable." Still another witnesses: "The Church needs a refreshing from the Lord for her growth; nay, for her very existence." And still another touchingly declares: "We would, with our brethren in other parts of our Zion, and on our bended knees, offer the prayer of Habakkuk: 'O Lord! revive thy work.'"

This longing for revivals we cannot but consider a cheering indication of the noblest life. Next to a state of actual revival is the sense of its need, and the struggle to attain it at any sacrifice of treasure, toil, or time. We trust that the period is not distant, when this state of actual, general, glorious revival shall be ours; when the Church, "seeking the Lord God by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes," shall find the annual record of her progress a blessed realization of the prophet's vision: "Thou shalt be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God. Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate; but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah."

In conclusion, whilst rejoicing that the Church lives, and furnishes the past year most cheering proofs of increasing energy, we are not to be unmindful that her sons die. We record in this, as in every annual Narrative, the decease of a number of our brethren, who, resting from their labors, say to us: "Work, while it is called to-day." The names of the deceased are as follows:

Rev. David Dobie,	of the Presbytery of	Champlain.
" Morris Barton,	"	Geneva.
" Aaron P. Allen,	"	Delaware.
" Samuel Fisher, D. D.,	"	Newark.
" Chester N. Righter,	"	"
" R. S. Storrs Dickinson,	"	Philadelphia, 3d.
" Joel Byington,	"	Marshall.
" Benjamin Marvin,	"	Washtenaw.
" William Page,	"	Kalamazoo.
" Solomon B. Gilbert,	"	Huron.
" Samuel W. Rose,	"	Pataskala.
" Stillman Tucker,	"	Franklin.
" Lorenzo Carey,	"	Hamilton.
" William L. Buffett,	"	Crawfordsville.
" Stephen Thompson,	"	St. Joseph.
" John Ballard,	"	Schuyler.
" Eli S. Hunter, D. D.,	"	Milwaukee.
" George A. M. Renshaw,	"	Osage.
" John T. Hargrave,	"	Winchester.
" John Howard,	"	"

Rev. Isaac Anderson, D. D., of the Presbytery of Union.
" Abel Pearson, D. D., " Kingston.
" Benjamin Wallace, " "
" William E. Holley, " Lexington, South.

By order of the General Assembly.
SAMUEL W. FISHER, *Moderator.*
EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. Of the Synods and their Presbyteries.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	5	80	3	4	68	244	95	8137	67	171	$226 09	$4,423 33	$3,791 59	$1,749 88	$2,862 41	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	24	...	...	22	96	29	2170	16	40	65 00	465 69	1,198 11	170 55	342 30	Stephen H. Williams.
2. Troy	1820	...	23	2	...	16	30	20	2520	10	34	37 00	415 31	815 03	892 00	928 68	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany	1791	...	15	1	2	12	72	19	1575	32	49	28 59	1,327 31	1,025 00	504 43	524 18	Eber M. Rollo.
4. Columbia	1802	...	6	...	2	6	6	7	851	4	7	41 50	579 00	358 00	60 00	476 00	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill	1851	...	12	...	...	12	40	20	1021	5	41	54 00	1,636 02	395 45	122 90	591 25	Leonard B. Van Dyck.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	4	69	3	9	73	144	118	7266	64	143	205 13	2,823 42	2,361 69	1,648 18	1,976 86	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	7	...	3	7	75	21	830	46	16	17 00	308 16	358 81	157 08	191 09	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	13	...	...	21	19	27	1874	5	30	81 00	385 03	525 84	175 25	510 33	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego	1823	...	13	...	...	17	5	24	1412	3	29	22 50	389 75	588 90	.....	5 65	Thomas A. Weed.
4. Utica	1842	...	36	3	6	28	45	46	3150	10	68	84 63	1,740 48	888 14	1,315 85	1,269 79	Samuel W. Brace.
III. Synod of Geneva	1812	6	108	1	8	94	309	240	9631	122	199	298 31	3,209 57	2,662 43	1,393 59	2,761 09	William N. McHarg.
1. Geneva	1805	...	33	...	1	17	40	54	2325	10	65	61 01	1,131 93	1,107 57	112 41	858 55	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Bath	1817	...	15	...	...	18	62	37	1455	21	31	34 90	365 75	110 51	102 00	62 44	Horatio Pattengill.
3. Chemung	1836	...	25	...	...	21	22	44	1886	10	29	47 00	409 00	376 00	315 00	521 00	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	12	1	...	11	43	28	1355	9	5	46 68	527 50	336 00	128 00	339 00	William N. McHarg.
5. Pennsylvania	1845	...	11	...	...	13	63	8	534	45	5	25 00	86 17	28 00	2 00	32 00	Samuel J. McCullough.
6. Lyons	1856	...	12	...	7	14	79	69	2076	27	64	83 72	689 22	704 32	734 18	948 10	Charles Hawley.
IV. Synod of Onondaga	1855	4	81	13	20	75	244	227	8236	97	135	280 00	4,069 09	2,844 53	1,908 86	2,269 96	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	25	...	5	25	74	56	2733	30	34	115 00	921 00	1,033 00	878 00	635 00	William W. Newell.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	31	12	1	21	53	50	2228	19	38	103 00	1,589 90	697 27	515 93	512 92	Henry N. Millerd.
3. Cortland	1825	...	14	...	14	17	46	63	1757	21	28	31 50	765 80	398 62	342 93	573 73	Samuel N. Robinson.
4. Tioga	1829	...	11	1	...	12	71	58	1518	27	35	30 50	792 39	715 44	172 00	548 31	Peter Lockwood.

V. Synod of Susquehanna.	1853	3	45	2	7	52	106	76	4136	34	57	72	60	1,274	09	1,487	77	381	46	417	96	David Torrey.
1. Otsego	1820	...	13	...	4	17	25	16	1361	3	21	31	00	440	26	490	63	179	95	255	00	Samuel W. Bush.
2. Chenango	1826	...	17	...	3	18	26	38	1616	14	20	36	10	688	21	812	05	115	50	35	25	Willard M. Hoyt.
3. Delaware	1831	...	15	2	...	17	55	22	1159	17	16	5	50	145	62	185	09	86	01	127	71	Isaac D. Cornwell.
VI. Synod of Genesee	1821	6	123	7	13	110	535	421	12,409	180	288	361	94	7,585	89	5,333	79	5,194	20	4,746	59	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Genesee	1819	...	15	2	...	14	45	59	1232	17	27	39	85	909	79	270	24	411	01	515	23	Gabriel S. Corwin.
2. Ontario	1817	...	14	...	...	14	39	15	1536	15	26	30	25	425	47	239	07	265	17	408	79	John Barnard, D. D.
3. Rochester	1819	...	25	2	3	15	206	104	2676	68	40	47	00	2,430	54	1,702	33	1,784	70	1,013	98	Jonathan Copeland.
4. Niagara	1817	...	21	1	...	18	97	84	2413	43	57	84	84	827	65	690	35	444	59	462	55	Josiah J. Ward.
5. Buffalo	1823	...	44	2	10	38	148	159	3473	37	138	160	00	2,992	44	2,431	80	2,288	73	2,346	04	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
6. Angelica*	1828	...	4	...	...	11	...	...	1079	...	...	.....		.....		.....		.....		.....		Samuel A. Rawson.
VII. S. of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	9	216	31	53	150	833	995	23,432	236	640	1,009	18	27,494	83	25,346	33	25,655	95	11,706	65	John N. Lewis.
1. Hudson	1797	...	14	...	3	13	51	40	1721	26	33	64	50	316	58	552	58	379	17	425	00	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	15	...	...	17	79	16	1733	30	28	60	00	207	82	129	04	12	00	245	50	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	10	...	...	6	62	7	638	34	19	20	00	166	21	185	33	10	00	240	58	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, 3d	1831	...	52	11	28	25	332	427	5532	61	188	305	00	14,780	13	12,165	37	7,466	80	4,975	67	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, 4th	1845	...	31	12	8	11	77	146	2446	11	82	204	00	4,538	76	5,952	97	14,908	55	3,116	47	A. Augustus Wood.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	18	1	5	8	34	58	2646	7	44	110	50	525	80	822	00	360	00	69	00	William S. Karr.
7. Newark	1824	...	33	3	...	20	89	199	3944	26	142	157	78	5,541	51	3,964	59	2,119	66	1,685	43	Joseph Few Smith, D. D.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	18	4	1	18	19	28	2434	9	48	60	00	617	00	891	00	228	00	788	00	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose	1832	...	25	...	8	32	90	74	2338	32	56	27	40	801	02	683	45	171	77	161	00	Adam Miller.
VIII. S. of Pennsylvania.	1838	4	83	6	27	72	636	362	10,748	152	418	666	31	18,267	83	3,930	75	6,127	61	22,899	89	John McKnight.
1. Wilmington	1833	...	14	1	1	19	125	58	1385	30	53	75	00	376	58	147	53	133	00	478	82	John W. Mears.
2. Philadelphia, 3d	1822	...	28	1	10	19	265	139	2659	60	88	214	00	6,595	08	1,687	18	4,117	94	18,350	00	John McKnight.
3. Philadelphia, 4th	1845	...	29	4	12	26	223	140	5762	57	220	252	31	10,194	67	1,441	20	1,258	67	3,891	07	Thomas J. Shepherd.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	12	...	4	8	23	25	942	5	57	125	00	1,101	50	654	84	618	00	180	00	Conway P. Wing.
IX. Synod of West Penna.	1843	3	23	1	1	37	128	39	2689	29	95	116	50	434	22	652	86	226	74	452	55	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	12	1	...	15	29	18	1138	8	31	61	50	303	39	524	68	111	00	390	90	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	7	...	1	16	72	9	915	15	35	22	00	93	83	70	18	87	37	61	65	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	4	...	...	6	27	12	636	6	29	33	00	37	00	58	00	28	37	.....		Samuel M. Sparks.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
X. Synod of Michigan	1834	7	76	1	9	91	211	336	6841	76	183	$274 20	$2,606 80	$2,530 67	$964 61	$2,570 20	Chauncy Osborn.
1. Detroit	1826	...	17	...	...	18	32	66	1367	6	48	58 20	856 99	601 76	527 04	672 37	Oliver W. Mather.
2. Monroe	1833	...	10	...	...	12	74	50	1000	32	63	50 00	414 71	457 00	.....	709 09	Henry G. Blinn.
3. Marshall	1838	...	8	...	...	15	9	62	1013	1	22	26 00	124 00	171 00	115 00	219 00	S. Dwight Pitkin.
4. Washtenaw	1838	...	12	1	5	13	21	48	1094	6	11	50 00	255 22	236 93	97 07	342 91	Charles G. Clark.
5. Kalamazoo	1838	...	13	...	...	14	62	35	1047	22	19	54 00	558 00	520 00	186 00	334 00	Milton Bradley.
6. Coldwater	1856	...	8	...	...	9	5	32	767	2	5	31 00	164 63	294 83	26 50	156 45	Reuben S. Goodman.
7. Saginaw	1856	...	8	...	4	10	8	43	553	7	15	5 00	233 25	249 15	13 00	136 38	Henry H. Northrop.
XI. Synod of W. Reserve	1825	7	116	3	10	95	245	198	6108	89	189	184 47	2,828 01	2,463 27	1,146 67	2,781 96	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River	1814	...	12	...	...	7	11	15	713	8	13	6 00	93 84	68 11	300 00	96 00	Dexter Witter.
2. Portage	1818	...	23	2	3	13	12	40	728	3	28	26 00	696 43	468 93	201 82	425 73	Levi B. Wilson.
3. Huron	1823	...	19	...	...	16	82	29	1121	39	42	61 00	484 11	439 07	45 60	489 26	Alfred Newton.
4. Trumbull	1827	...	11	...	7	14	40	20	1146	7	31	6 20	396 38	293 84	16 25	312 05	Xenophon Betts.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	25	1	...	15	48	40	1234	15	31	26 27	488 24	605 14	400 00	1,130 78	James Shaw.
6. Elyria	1842	...	16	...	...	16	5	6	632	3	7	.....	243 19	433 01	90 00	15 00	Alfred H. Betts.
7. Maumee	1842	...	10	...	...	14	47	48	534	14	37	59 00	425 82	155 17	93 00	313 14	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. Synod of Ohio	1814	4	49	3	9	75	244	181	4456	60	179	87 25	1,704 21	2,004 80	1,184 18	1,321 37	Addison Kingsbury, D. D.
1. Athens	1822	...	12	2	...	19	63	18	663	12	36	28 00	232 00	106 00	120 00	48 00	James S. Walton.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	17	...	...	24	79	59	1801	19	53	15 25	895 46	977 75	521 40	632 73	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin	1835	...	13	...	6	20	72	69	1227	16	45	.....	284 25	469 00	214 53	189 14	Henry Shedd.
4. Scioto	1845	...	7	1	3	12	30	35	765	13	45	44 00	292 50	452 05	328 25	451 50	Joseph Chester.
XIII. S. of Cincinnati	1829	3	46	11	6	38	159	99	2792	38	83	168 00	3,725 00	2,479 99	5,561 20	1,435 00	James J. Blaisdell.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	25	10	6	16	56	62	1489	9	49	89 00	3,313 00	1,971 00	5,070 00	1,082 00	D. Howe Allen, D. D.
2. Dayton	1838	...	11	...	...	11	78	29	753	22	22	43 00	283 00	405 00	353 00	353 00	E. Roger Johnson.
3. Hamilton	1846	...	10	1	...	11	25	8	550	7	12	36 00	129 00	103 99	138 20	.....	Benjamin Graves.

XIV. Synod of Indiana....	1826	4	39	4	10	64	145	112	3209	29	112	186 65	1,909 65	1,371 34	813 50	673 45	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem	1823	...	8	1	1	17	61	50	967	15	55	79 30	873 45	427 24	204 35	130 60	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison	1825	...	13	1	8	17	39	21	908	4	17	43 35	537 45	239 50	334 55	181 35	W. Wallace Atterbury.
3. Indianapolis	1830	...	11	1	...	17	22	23	781	8	13	32 00	199 55	444 00	60 00	295 00	George M. Maxwell.
4. Green Castle	1850	...	7	1	1	13	23	18	553	2	27	32 00	299 20	260 60	214 60	66 50	
XV. Synod of Wabash	1851	4	33	4	3	59	105	94	2642	42	53	47 50	530 09	336 28	345 02	121 70	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville	1825	...	12	...	...	11	17	25	516	2	4	.....	.....	65 50	187 02	41 00	Alexander Lemon.
2. St. Joseph	1833	...	8	3	1	17	14	30	815	6	25	16 00	282 00	150 71	81 00	15 00	Norman Kellogg.
3. Logansport	1835	...	8	...	2	17	50	29	948	18	19	31 50	191 50	120 07	62 00	60 70	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne	1845	...	5	1	...	14	24	10	363	16	5	.....	56 59	.....	15 00	5 00	Andrew Loose.
XVI. Synod of Illinois....	1831	4	66	...	4	85	199	120	4033	73	69	155 95	1,972 75	1,033 70	432 60	1,074 75	Henry C. Abernethy.
1. Illinois	1828	...	20	...	...	16	2	3	1104	3	6	45 75	594 00	380 00	.....	.....	Livingston M. Glover.
2. Schuyler	1833	...	19	...	2	21	22	6	988	9	16	10 00	86 00	69 00	131 00	224 00	Henry C. Abernethy.
3. Wabash	1833	...	5	...	...	10	1	6	281	...	...	25 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton	1836	...	22	...	2	38	174	105	1660	61	47	75 20	1,292 75	584 70	301 60	850 75	Augustus T. Norton.
XVII. Synod of Peoria...	1843	6	91	1	15	71	173	446	3482	42	135	304 86	6,059 31	2,897 50	1,522 95	4,068 87	Ira M. Weed.
1. Ottawa	1834	...	17	...	...	12	9	15	282	3	12	32 80	42 95	50 75	.....	50 00	Nahum Gould.
2. Peoria and Knox	1836	...	15	...	3	9	28	29	438	7	8	30 00	692 75	98 00	75 00	336 00	John W. Bailey.
3. Galena	1842	...	12	...	3	16	31	73	626	11	53	37 00	372 41	253 55	.....	113 30	James R. Smith.
4. Chicago	1847	...	23	1	7	16	73	177	1198	15	35	100 06	4,672 23	2,015 95	1,222 95	3,309 08	Lewis H. Loss.
5. Belvidere	1847	...	14	...	2	6	19	81	639	5	13	30 00	216 97	338 25	160 00	210 49	Isaac E. Carey.
6. Minnesota	1850	...	10	...	...	12	13	71	299	1	14	75 00	62 00	141 00	65 00	50 00	Edward D. Neill.
XVIII. S. of Wisconsin....	1857	3	21	...	2	23	105	115	888	35	38	51 50	484 09	290 00	477 00	187 00	
1. Milwaukee	1851	...	10	...	1	7	94	70	456	31	27	30 00	388 00	207 00	425 00	145 00	S. Granby Spees.
2. Fox River	1851	...	5	...	...	6	8	25	195	3	4	10 00	58 44	49 00	18 00	23 00	John B. Preston.
3. Columbus	1856	...	6	...	1	10	3	20	237	1	7	11 50	37 65	34 00	34 00	19 00	Cyrus E. Rosenkrans.
XIX. Synod of Iowa	1853	4	38	...	8	54	141	298	1535	9	33	100 50	541 35	209 17	8,887 51	887 25	Edmund D. Holt.
1. Des Moines	1845	...	7	...	...	15	72	94	503	1	2	20 50	46 00	48 00	54 00	153 00	Thompson Bird.
2. Iowa City	1852	...	15	...	2	26	50	138	593	5	12	40 00	211 50	62 79	182 51	186 50	Samuel Storrs Howe.
3. Keokuk	1852	...	9	...	6	11	12	31	392	1	15	40 00	118 60	8 38	8,651 00	195 75	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
4. Dubuque	1855	...	7	...	...	2	7	35	47	2	4	.....	165 25	90 00	.....	352 00	Samuel Newbury.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
XX. S. of Alta California.	1857	3	15	...	...	9	21	36	308	5	42						
1. San Francisco	1849	...	6	...	...	2	...	13	110	...	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel H. Willey.
2. Sierra Nevada	1857	...	4	...	...	4	16	21	133	4	22						
3. San José	1857	...	5	...	...	3	5	2	65	1	5						
XXI. Synod of Missouri	1832	4	39	2	4	57	70	54	2290	17	58	$136 11	$593 95	$82 00	$250 95	$336 50	John Leighton.
1. St. Louis	1831	...	11	...	1	9	9	26	611	1	11	3 00	529 65	22 00	214 95	127 00	Edmund Wright.
2. Northern Missouri	1845	...	6	...	...	9	24	10	592	5	5	38 50	25 00	60 00	.....	206 00	John Leighton.
3. Lexington	1845	...	11	2	...	21	...	...	569	...	...	40 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel J. M. Beebe.
4. Osage	1845	...	11	...	3	18	37	18	518	11	42	54 61	39 30	.....	36 00	3 50	George W. Harlan.
XXII. Synod of Virginia.	1788	3	39	7	7	48	188	89	4173	53	160	188 00	2,933 97	958 00	1,546 82	1,663 56	Thomas D. Bell.
1. Winchester	1794	...	8	4	5	18	23	16	1085	10	29	87 75	311 30	42 00	185 22	219 75	Henry Mathews.
2. District of Columbia.	1831	...	13	2	...	13	64	35	1496	13	88	8 25	877 00	761 00	839 00	531 00	William McLain.
3. Hanover	1838	...	18	1	2	17	101	38	1592	30	43	92 00	1,745 67	155 00	522 60	912 81	Henry S. Osborn.
XXIII. S. of Kentucky	1802	3	14	...	...	21	31	7	1028	18	10	115 00	49 45	75 00	153 75	178 25	Archer C. Dickerson.
1. Harmony	1842	...	5	...	...	9	26	...	352	18	4	40 00	49 45	35 00	31 75	64 50	Fincelius R. Gray.
2. Providence	1842	...	4	...	...	6	...	...	499	...	...	60 00	.....	.....	.....	16 00	Thomas H. Cleland.
3. Green River	1842	...	5	...	...	6	5	7	177	...	6	15 00	.....	40 00	122 00	97 75	Archer C. Dickerson.
XXIV. S. of Tennessee	1817	4	46	...	15	84	240	119	5286	67	228	120 05	328 08	376 00	238 00	320 71	Joseph H. Martin.
1. Union	1797	...	18	...	7	31	73	52	1992	20	68	.....	.....	77 00	46 00	73 00	Gideon S. White.
2. Holston	1826	...	11	...	5	18	105	26	1832	36	79	67 75	117 33	232 40	50 00	235 16	Samuel Sawyer.
3. Kingston	1838	...	8	...	3	21	11	31	783	3	50	48 80	17 55	10 00	142 00	12 55	William B. Brown.
4. New River	1838	...	9	...	...	14	51	10	678	8	31	3 50	193 20	56 60	.....	.....	George Painter.

XXV. S. of W. Tennessee.	1826	3	19	...	2	38	43	34	2209	18	33	120 75	401 65	248 05	486 00	433 50	William Eagleton, D.D.
1. West Tennessee	1810	...	5	...	1	7	16	6	568	5	12	.....	161 00	206 50	.....	288 00	Frederick A. Thompson.
2. Shiloh	1816	...	4	...	...	17	15	20	916	4	12	30 00	43 75	30 00	216 00	.....	Amzi Bradshaw.
3. Richland	1824	...	10	...	1	14	12	8	725	9	9	90 75	196 90	11 55	270 00	145 50	William L. Tarbet.
XXVI. S. of Mississippi	1846	4	20	2	2	36	59	49	1151	13	47	250 00	157 50	.....	450 26	.....	Charles M. Atkinson.
1. Clinton	1822	...	7	1	2	12	11	5	358	...	27	90 00	147 50	.....	315 01	.....	Consider Parish.
2. Lexington, South	1845	...	3	1	...	9	14	4	296	2	5	60 00	10 00	.....	135 25	.....	Edgar M. Richardson.
3. Newton	1845	...	5	...	...	10	24	29	408	8	7	75 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	James M. Richardson.
4. Texas	1854	...	5	...	...	5	10	11	89	3	8	25 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	Daniel C. Henderson.

II. Of the Synods.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certificate.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	80	3	4	68	244	95	8,137	67	171	$226.09	$4,423.33	$3,791.59	$1,749.88	$2,862.41
2. Utica	1829	4	69	3	9	73	144	118	7,266	64	143	205.13	2,823.42	2,361.69	1,648.18	1,976.86
3. Geneva	1812	6	108	1	8	94	309	240	9,631	122	199	298.31	3,209.57	2,662.43	1,393.59	2,761.09
4. Onondaga	1855	4	81	13	20	75	244	227	8,236	97	135	280.00	4,069.09	2,844.53	1,908.86	2,269.96
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	45	2	7	52	106	76	4,136	34	57	72.60	1,274.09	1,487.77	381.46	417.96
6. Genesee	1821	6	123	7	13	110	535	421	12,409	180	288	361.94	7,585.89	5,333.79	5,194.20	4,746.59
7. N. York and N. Jersey	1788	9	216	31	53	150	833	995	23,432	236	640	1009.18	27,494.83	25,346.33	25,655.95	11,706.65
8. Pennsylvania	1838	4	83	6	27	72	636	362	10,748	152	418	666.31	18,267.83	3,930.75	6,127.61	22,899.89
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	23	1	1	37	128	39	2,689	29	95	116.50	434.22	652.86	226.74	452.55
10. Michigan	1834	7	76	1	9	91	211	336	6,841	76	183	274.20	2,606.80	2,530.67	964.61	2,570.20
11. Western Reserve	1825	7	116	3	10	95	245	198	6,108	89	189	184.47	2,828.01	2,163.27	1,146.67	2,781.96
12. Ohio	1814	4	49	3	9	75	244	181	4,456	60	179	87.25	1,704.21	2,004.80	1,184.18	1,321.37
13. Cincinnati	1829	3	46	11	6	38	159	99	2,792	38	83	168.00	3,725.00	2,479.99	5,561.20	1,435.00
14. Indiana	1826	4	39	4	10	64	145	112	3,209	29	112	186.65	1,909.65	1,371.34	813.50	673.45
15. Wabash	1851	4	33	4	3	59	105	94	2,642	42	53	47.50	530.09	336 28	345.02	121.70
16. Illinois	1831	4	66	...	4	85	199	120	4,033	73	69	155.95	1,972.75	1,033.70	432.60	1,074.75
17. Peoria	1843	6	91	1	15	71	173	446	3,482	42	135	304.86	6,059.31	2,897.50	1,522.95	4,068.87
18. Wisconsin	1857	3	21	...	2	23	105	115	888	35	38	51.50	484.09	290.00	477.00	187.00
19. Iowa	1853	4	38	...	8	54	111	298	1,535	9	33	100 50	541.35	209.17	8,887.51	887.25
20. Alta California	1857	3	15	...	...	9	21	36	308	5	42					
21. Missouri	1832	4	39	2	4	57	70	54	2,290	17	58	136.11	593.95	82.00	250.95	336.50
22. Virginia	1788	3	39	7	7	48	188	89	4,173	53	160	188.00	2,933.97	958.00	1,546.82	1,663.56
23. Kentucky	1802	3	14	...	...	21	31	7	1,028	18	10	115.00	49.45	75.00	153.75	178.25
24. Tennessee	1817	4	46	...	15	84	240	119	5,286	67	228	120.05	328.08	376.00	238.00	320.91
25. West Tennessee	1826	3	19	...	2	38	43	34	2,209	18	33	120 75	401.65	248.05	486.00	433.50
26. Mississippi	1846	4	20	2	2	36	59	49	1,151	13	47	250.00	157.50	.....	450.26	
		114	1595	105	248	1679	5558	4960	139,115	1665	3798	$5726.85	$96,308.13	$65,767.51	$68,747.49	$68,148.23

MINUTES, 1858.

Chicago, May 20th 1858.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, at the city of Chicago, on Thursday, the 20th day of May, A. D. 1858, at 11 o'clock A. M., in the Second Presbyterian church, and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from Acts 9 : 31 : "Then had the churches rest throughout all Judæa, and Galilee, and Samaria, and were edified; and, walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied."

After the sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 20th, 3 *o'clock P. M.*

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Permanent Clerk presented the report of the Committee on Commissions; and the following persons were thereupon enrolled as duly appointed Commissioners to this General Assembly: [570]

I. SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Champlain*,	Stephen H. Williams,	Hascal D. Savage,
	Cyrenius Ransom,	Asa D. Moore.
2. *Troy*,	Andrew J. Fennel (2),	Lyman Wilder (2).
3. *Albany*,	Stephen Bush,	William Burton.
4. *Columbia.*		
5. *Catskill*,	Alexander Trotter.	

II. SYNOD OF UTICA.

1. *St. Lawrence*,	Baruch B. Beckwith,	Ira Chandler.
2. *Watertown*,	Peter Snyder,	Albert P. Brayton.
3. *Oswego*,		John E. Dutton (4).
4. *Utica*,	Eliot H. Payson,	Calvin Bishop,
	Theodore Spencer (5),	Noah White.

III. SYNOD OF GENEVA.

1. *Geneva*,	Samuel H. Gridley, D. D.,	Ebenezer B. Jones,
	Alvah Lilly,	Benjamin Young (2).
2. *Bath*,	William R. Downs (2),	Abraham Waugh (2).
3. *Chemung*,	Benjamin Russell,	Tyler H. Abbey.
4. *Ithaca*,	Augustus Pomeroy.	
5. *Pennsylvania*,	Samuel J. McCullough,	Jesse Shepherd.
6. *Lyons*,	George R. H. Shumway,	Hiram Foster.

IV. SYNOD OF ONONDAGA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Onondaga,*	Sherman B. Canfield, D. D.,	Zebulon Ostrom,
	George S. Boardman,	John Hartshorn.
2. *Cayuga,*	Timothy M. Hopkins,	Sylvester Willard, M. D.,
	Edwin Hall, D. D.,	Hon. John Porter.
3. *Cortland,*	Samuel N. Robinson,	Charles A. Cook.
4. *Tioga,*	Samuel H. Hall,	Alvan Wheeler, M. D.

V. SYNOD OF SUSQUEHANNA.

1. *Otsego,*	William Baldwin.	
2. *Chenango,*	Hiram W. Gilbert,	E. Percival Willcox (5).
3. *Delaware,*	Isaac D. Cornwell.	[571]

VI. SYNOD OF GENESEE.

1. *Genesee,*	Daniel Russell,	Elias Foot.
2. *Ontario,*	Edwin G. Moore,	Abraham H. Williams.
3. *Rochester,*	Ebenezer M. Toof,	Josiah Pierson,
	Job Pierson, Jr.,	Harley N. Bushnell.
4. *Niagara,*	O. Holmes Barnard.	Charles H. West.
5. *Buffalo,*	Timothy Stillman, D. D.,	Thomas Farnham,
	Grosv. W. Heacock, D. D.,	Charles Taintor.
	M. L. P. Thompson, D. D.,	
6. *Angelica.*		

VII. SYNOD OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

1. *Hudson,*	Obadiah M. Johnson,	Hon. Robert Denniston.
2. *North River,*	William N. Sayre (3),	Joseph Bartlett (2).
3. *Long Island,*	James Sinclair.	
4. *New York, 3d,*	George C. Lucas,	George Betts,
	T. Ralston Smith,	George D. Cragin,
	R. D. Hitchcock, D. D. (3),	James W. Bishop.
5. *New York, 4th,*	Charles E. Lindsley,	Henry D. Ranney, M. D.,
	Henry B. Smith, D. D. (2),	Samuel M. Blatchford.
6. *Brooklyn,*	William S. Karr,	Jarvis Carman.
7. *Newark,*	J. Few Smith, D. D.,	Asa H. Holden,
	Henry A. Rowland, D. D.,	Ira Taylor.
8. *Rockaway,*	Henry F. Wadsworth,	Albert R. Riggs.
9. *Montrose,*	Willard Richardson,	Joab Tyler,
	Adam Miller,	James Deans.

VIII. SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Wilmington,*	George F. Wiswell,	Edward T. Taylor.
2. *Philadelphia, 3d,*	Beriah B. Hotchkin,	Hon. A. Naudain, M. D.
	John W. Dulles,	
3. *Philadelphia, 4th,*	Elias J. Richards,	Benedict D. Stewart (2),
	Cornelius Earle, Jr.,	J. Marshall Paul, M.D. (3).
4. *Harrisburgh,*	Thomas H. Robinson,	Elisha Covert.

IX. SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.

1. *Erie,*	Eli W. Beebe,	David S. Clark.
2. *Meadville,*	George W. Hampson.	
3. *Pittsburgh,*	James Cochran,	Lauriston R. Livingston.

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X. SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Detroit*,	Samuel N. Hill,	Samuel Zug.
2. *Monroe*,	Addison K. Strong,	Hon. Charles Noble.
3. *Marshall*,	Chester S. Armstrong,	Shubael R. Greene.
4. *Washtenaw*,	Benjamin Franklin,	Daniel B. Greene.
5. *Kalamazoo*,	Milton Bradley,	Albert Arms.
6. *Cold Water*,	Reuben S. Goodman,	John Chandler.
7. *Saginaw*,	James McLaurin,	Benjamin Bangs.
8. *Gr. River Valley*,	Robert W. Landis,	Sarell Wood.
9. *Lake Superior*,	William A. McCorkle.	

XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE.

1. *Grand River*,	Alvan Nash (2).	
2. *Portage*,	Joseph H. Scott.	
3. *Huron*,	John H. Walter,	John Seymour.
4. *Trumbull*,	Augustus Cone,	Martin Allen.
5. *Cleveland*,	James Eells,	Jeremiah Holt.
6. *Elyria*,	Francis A. Wilber,	Elijah Dewitt (5).
7. *Maumee*,	William C. Turner,	Horatio Conant, M. D.

XII. SYNOD OF OHIO.

1. *Athens*,	Israel S. Twombly,	James Patterson.
2. *Pataskala*,	Jacob Little, D. D.	
3. *Franklin*,	Oren H. Newton,	Gilbert Green.
4. *Scioto*,	Joseph Chester (3),	Benjamin Newton.

XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

1. *Cincinnati*,	James J. Blaisdell,	Joseph Guild.
2. *Dayton*,	William M. Cheever,	George L. Massey.
3. *Hamilton*,	Benjamin Graves,	Elias Kumler.

XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA.

1. *Salem*,	Philip Bevan (2),	John S. B. Kelso, M. D.
2. *Madison*,	Ninian S. Dickey,	Thomas L. Paine.
3. *Indianapolis*,	George P. Tindall,	Robert Hamill.
4. *Green Castle*,	Ransom Hawley.	

XV. SYNOD OF WABASH.

1. *Crawfordsville*,	Caleb Mills, LL.D.,	Thomas W. Fry, M. D. (2).
2. *St. Joseph*,	Lewis Hamilton,	Amos Davis.
3. *Logansport*,	Francis S. McCabe,	David H. Crouse.
4. *Fort Wayne*,	Eleroy Curtis,	Daniel S. Beaver. [573]

XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

1. *Illinois*,	William G. Gallaher,	Thomas Moffitt.
2. *Schuyler*,	George F. Davis,	Charles Ballou.
3. *Wabash*,	Charles H. Palmer,	William M. Allison.
4. *Alton*,	Augustus T. Norton,	Russell Tuthill,
	Robert Stewart (2),	Lawson A. Parks (2).

XVII. SYNOD OF PEORIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Ottawa*,	Nahum Gould,	Chester B. Rushmore.
2. *Knox*,	George W. Gale, D. D. (2),	William L. Lee (2).
3. *Galena*,	John N. Powell (2).	
4. *Chicago*,	J. Ambrose Wight,	Henry E. Seelye.
5. *Belvidere*,	Henry B. Holmes.	
6. *Minnesota*,	Joseph W. Hancock,	Henry M. Knox.
7. *Bloomington*,	John M. Brown,	Lumen W. Capen.
8. *Blue Earth*,	Daniel Ames.	

XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.

1. *Milwaukee*,	William A. Niles,	Samuel C. West (2).
2. *Fox River*,	Silas H. Ashmun,	Lyman Dayton.
3. *Columbus*,	John G. Kanouse,	Milton Jennings.

XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA.

1. *Des Moines*,	Thompson Bird,	John G. Weeks, M. D.
2. *Iowa City*,	Daniel Clark.	
3. *Keokuk*,	Glen Wood,	William Coleman.
4. *Dubuque*,	George E. Delevan,	William Bothwell (4).
5. *Cedar Valley*,	Williston Jones (3).	

XX. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

1. *San Francisco.*
2. *Sierra Nevada.*
3. *San José.*

XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

1. *St. Louis.*
2. *Northern Missouri.*
3. *Lexington.*
4. *Osage.*

XXII. SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

1. *Winchester.*
2. *District of Columbia.*
3. *Hanover.* [574]

XXIII. SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

1. *Harmony.*
2. *Providence.*
3. *Green River.*

XXIV. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

1. *Union.*
2. *Holston.*
3. *Kingston.*
4. *New River.*

XXV. SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

1. *West Tennessee.*
2. *Shiloh.*
3. *Richland.*

XXVI. SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
1. *Clinton.*		
2. *Lexington, South.*		
3. *Newton.*		
4. *Texas.*		

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

General Association of Massachusetts.	
General Association of Connecticut,	Rev. Joseph R. Page.
General Association of New Hampshire.	
General Conference of Maine.	
General Convention of Vermont,	Rev. Silas McKeen.
Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin,	Rev. Jeremiah Porter.
General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States.	
Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.	
General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.	
General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America,	Rev. Hugh McMillan, D. D.
General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America.	
Union of the Evangelical Churches of France.	

The Committee on Commissions reported the attendance of Elias Foote, an Elder from the Presbytery of Genesee, with an irregular Commission. His case was referred to a Committee, consisting of Rev. Edwin Hall, D. D., Rev. James Eells, and Hon. Arnold Naudain, M. D. [575]

The Committee presently reported, that the name of Mr. Foote be enrolled as a member of this General Assembly; and the report was adopted.

The Assembly proceeded to the election of a Moderator. Whereupon the Rev. M. L. P. Thompson, D. D., of the Presbytery of Buffalo, was chosen Moderator, and inducted into office in the usual form.

Rev. George F. Wiswell, of the Presbytery of Wilmington, and Rev. Charles E. Lindsley, of the Presbytery of New York, 4th, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The General Rules for Judicatories, contained in the Appendix to the Constitution, were adopted as the Rules of this Assembly.

The docket of business was presented, and read by the Stated Clerk.

The printed Minutes of the last Assembly were distributed among the members.

Communications were received from the Presbytery of Harmony. They were read, and referred to a Committee, consisting of the Rev. Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., Hon. Robert Denniston, and Mr. Samuel M. Blatchford.

Resolved, That the Assembly hold its daily sessions from 9 o'clock A. M. to 12 o'clock M.; and from 2½ o'clock P. M. to 5½ P. M.; that the evening sessions, when held, commence at 7¾ o'clock; and that the first half hour of the morning session be appropriated to devotional exercises, under the direction of the Moderator.

A communication was received from the Chicago and Milwaukee Railroad Company, tendering to the Assembly an excursion on Saturday to Lake Forest, the site of the Lind University. The invitation was accepted.

Ordered, That the usual number of copies of the Roll be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

It was made the first order of the day for to-morrow, to receive the Synodical Records, the Narratives and the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries, Overtures, memorials, appeals and complaints.

In connection with the reception of the Narratives, it was voted that the Presbyteries, through their Commissioners, be called upon to make such statements as they may desire in regard to the state of religion within their bounds.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 21st, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioners were reported, and their names were entered upon the Roll: [576]

Elder Samuel C. West,	of the Presbytery of	Milwaukee.
Rev. Andrew J. Fennel,	"	Troy.
Elder Benjamin Young,	"	Geneva.
" Thomas W. Fry, M. D.,	"	Crawfordsville.
" Abraham Waugh,	"	Bath.
Rev. William R. Downs,	"	Bath.
Elder Lawson A. Parks,	"	Alton.
Rev. Robert Stewart,	"	Alton.
" Henry B. Smith, D. D.,	"	New York, 4th.
" Alvan Nash,	"	Grand River.
Elder Benedict D. Stewart,	"	Philadelphia, 4th.
Rev. John N. Powell,	"	Galena.
Elder William L. Lee,	"	Knox.
" Lyman Wilder,	"	Troy.
" Joseph Bartlett,	"	North River.
Rev. George W. Gale, D. D.,	"	Knox.
" Philip Bevan,	"	Salem.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

1. *Judicial Committee. Ministers*—Henry A. Rowland, D. D., Andrew J. Fennel, Robert W. Landis, George R. H. Shumway. *Elders*—Hon. John Porter, Samuel M. Blatchford, John S. B. Kelso, M. D.

2. *Bills and Overtures. Ministers*—Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., Beriah B. Hotchkin, Timothy M. Hopkins, Ransom Hawley. *Elders*—Hon. Robert Denniston, Thomas Moffitt, John G. Weeks, M. D.

3. *Polity of the Church. Ministers*—George S. Boardman, Samuel H. Hall, Peter Snyder, Obadiah M. Johnson. *Elders*—Albert P. Brayton, David H. Crouse, Samuel C. West.

4. *Church Extension. Ministers*—Edwin Hall, D. D., Augustus T. Norton, George F. Wiswell, Addison K. Strong. *Elders*—Sylvester Willard, M. D., Henry D. Ranney, M. D., Henry E. Seelye.

5. *Education. Ministers*—Caleb Mills, LL.D., J. Few Smith, D.D., James Eells, Thomas H. Robinson. *Elders*—Hon. Charles Noble, Hon. Arnold Naudain, M. D., Albert R. Riggs. [577]

6. *Publication.* *Ministers*—Henry B. Smith, D. D., Sherman B. Canfield, D. D., Elias J. Richards, Grosvenor W. Heacock, D. D. *Elders*—Edward T. Taylor, Thomas Farnham, Jeremiah Holt.

7. *Devotional Exercises.* *Ministers*—J. Ambrose Wight, Eliot H. Payson, William M. Cheever, T. Ralston Smith. *Elders*—Sarell Wood, James W. Bishop, Charles Taintor.

8. *Narrative.* *Ministers*—George C. Lucas, Jacob Little, D. D., Cornelius Earle, Jr., John G. Kanouse. *Elders*—Ebenezer B. Jones, Daniel B. Greene, George L. Massey.

9. *Leave of Absence.* *Ministers*—Timothy Stillman, D. D., Baruch B. Beckwith, George E. Delevan, Benjamin Graves. *Elders*—Albert Arms, Henry M. Knox, Benjamin Bangs.

10. *Mileage.* *Elders*—David S. Clark, Benedict D. Stewart, George D. Cragin.

The Moderator also announced the Committees on the Synodical Records, as follows:

1. *Albany.* *Ministers*—Samuel N. Robinson, Augustus Pomeroy. *Elder*—Hiram Foster.

2. *Utica.* *Ministers*—Stephen H. Williams, Alvah Lilly. *Elder*—Asa D. Moore.

3. *Geneva.* *Ministers*—Daniel Russell, Edwin G. Moore. *Elder*—George Betts.

4. *Onondaga.* *Ministers*—William S. Karr, Henry F. Wadsworth. *Elder*—Jarvis Carman.

5. *Susquehanna.* *Ministers*—James Sinclair, Ebenezer M. Toof. *Elder*—Josiah Pierson.

6. *Genesee.* *Ministers*—John W. Dulles, George W. Hampson. *Elder*—Elisha Covert.

7. *New York and New Jersey.* *Ministers*—James J. Blaisdell, Eli W. Beebe. *Elder*—Robert Hamill.

8. *Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—Job Pierson, Jr., John H. Walter. *Elder*—Gilbert Green.

9. *West Pennsylvania.* *Ministers*—William A. McCorkle, Samuel J. McCullough. *Elder*—Jesse Shepherd.

10. *Michigan.* *Ministers*—Lewis Hamilton, William C. Turner. *Elder*—Horatio Conant, M. D.

11. *Western Reserve.* *Ministers*—George P. Tindall, Israel C. Twombly. *Elder*—Joseph Guild. [578]

12. *Ohio.* *Ministers*—Franis S. McCabe, Ninian S. Dickey. *Elder*—Thomas L. Paine.

13. *Cincinnati.* *Ministers*—Eleroy Curtis, William G. Gallaher. *Elder*—William M. Allison.

14. *Wabash.* *Ministers*—Oren H. Newton, Joseph H. Scott. *Elder*—Elias Kumler.

15. *Indiana.* *Ministers*—Milton Bradley, Reuben S. Goodman. *Elder*—Samuel Zug.

16. *Illinois.* *Ministers*—Nahum Gould, Thompson Bird. *Elder*—Lyman Dayton.

17. *Peoria.* *Ministers*—Glen Wood, Silas H. Ashmun. *Elder*—Milton Jennings.

18. *Wisconsin.* *Ministers*—Daniel Clark, Charles H. Palmer. *Elder*—William Coleman.

19. *Iowa.* *Ministers*—William A. Niles, Joseph W. Hancock. *Elder*—Russell Tuthill.

20. *Alta California.* *Ministers*—Stephen Bush, Alexander Trotter. *Elder*—William Burton.

21. *Virginia.* *Ministers*—James Cochran, James McLaurin. *Elder*—Shubael R. Greene.

22. *Kentucky.* *Ministers*—William Baldwin, Samuel N. Hill. *Elder*—Lauriston R. Livingston.

23. *Missouri.* *Ministers*—Hiram W. Gilbert, Isaac D. Cornwell. *Elder*—Ira Taylor.

24. *Tennessee.* *Ministers*—Cyrenius Ransom, Chester S. Armstrong. *Elder*—Daniel S. Beaver.

25. *West Tennessee.* *Ministers*—Augustus Cone, O. Holmes Barnard. *Elder*—John Seymour.

26. *Mississippi.* *Ministers*—George F. Davis, Francis A. Wilber. *Elder*—Lumen W. Capen.

The Records of the Synods were presented, and put into the hands of the Committees appointed to examine them.

The Assembly proceeded to receive the Narratives and the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries, and to hear such verbal statements as the Commissioners desired to make.

Before the completion of the business, the Assembly adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday, May 21st, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following new Commissioner presented his credentials, and his name was entered upon the Roll:

Elder J. Marshall Paul, M. D., of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, 4th. [579]

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for various pulpits in the city and vicinity, on the ensuing Sabbath.

The Assembly received an invitation from Mr. William H. Brown to a social interview at his residence on Tuesday evening next. The invitation was accepted.

The Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian House presented their annual report. The report was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The Permanent Committee on Church Extension presented their annual report, which was accepted.

It was made the order of the day for Monday morning at 10 o'clock, to receive the report of the Permanent Committee on Publication.

The unfinished business of the morning was resumed, and continued until the time of adjournment.

Adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 24th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The first half hour was occupied with devotional exercises.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners and Delegates presented their credentials, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Rev. Williston Jones, of the Presbytery of Cedar Valley.

Rev. William N. Sayre, of the Presbytery of North River.
" Joseph Chester, " Scioto.
" Roswell D. Hitchcock, D. D., " New York, 3d.
" Hugh McMillan, D. D., Delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America.

Rev. Silas McKeen, Delegate from the General Convention of Vermont.

The Permanent Committee on Publication presented their annual report. The report was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Publication.

The Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund presented their annual report. The report was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

A communication was received, and read, from Rev. A. H. H. Boyd, D. D., in behalf of the "United Synod of the Presbyterian Church." It was referred to the special Committee already appointed upon the communications from the Presbytery of Harmony, which, by order of the Assembly, was increased by the addition of Rev. George W. Gale, D. D., Rev. Elias J. Richards, Rev. James Eells, and Hon. John Porter. [580]

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at 10½ o'clock, to receive the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education for the Gospel Ministry.

The Judicial Committee reported that a paper had been put into their hands, purporting to be a request from Mr. C. H. Baldwin, to the Moderator of the Assembly, that his appeal from a decision of the Synod of Genesee be continued to the next General Assembly, and offering reasons for his failure to appear and prosecute it. It appears from the Form of Discipline, Chapter VII., sec. 3, article 11, that his case is regularly before us for reference to the next General Assembly if his excuse for now failing to appear shall be deemed sufficient.

The Committee recommend that the Assembly, in view of the reasons offered, and out of a desire to grant the appellant every reasonable indulgence, continue his case agreeably to his request; it being understood, that the sentence of the Presbytery remain in full force against him till the case be finally issued, in accordance with the provisions of our Form of Discipline, Chap. VII., sec. 3, article 15.

The report was adopted.

The Judicial Committee also reported, in relation to an appeal of the Rev. George Sheldon, from a decision of the Synod of Western Reserve. The report was accepted, and made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The Judicial Committee reported, as being in order, a complaint of the Rev. Thompson Bird, in behalf of the Presbytery of Des Moines, against a decision of the Synod of Iowa, in the case of Rev. James H. Shields, who had been deposed by the Presbytery, for marriage with a woman divorced, as alleged, for insufficient grounds, and whom the Synod had restored. They recommend that it be taken up, and issued; and that in doing this the following order be observed:

1. That the action of the Synod complained of be read.
2. The reasons of the complaint.
3. The action of the Synod in the case.
4. The doings of the Presbytery, including all the testimony on which the action of the Synod was based.
5. That the original parties then be heard; first, the complainant, and then the Synod.

6. That any of the members of the inferior judicatory be heard in explanation of the grounds of their decision, or dissent from it.

The report was adopted, and it was made the first order of the day for Wednesday morning, to consider the complaint.

It was made the order of the day for this afternoon, at 3½ o'clock, to hear the Delegates from Corresponding Bodies.

The report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension, previously read and accepted by the Assembly, was referred to the Standing Committee on Church Extension.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [581]

Monday, May 24th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly took up and concluded the unfinished business, viz., the reception, from the different Presbyteries, of Narratives, Statistical Reports, and other papers.

The Treasurer's annual report was received, and referred to an *Auditing Committee*, consisting of Messrs. Samuel M. Blatchford and Benedict D. Stewart.

Resolved, That it be a standing rule of the Assembly, that the secretary of any of the Permanent Committees shall be entitled to the same privilege as the Delegates from Corresponding Bodies, while the business intrusted to that Committee is under consideration in the house.

The Assembly voted that the same privilege be extended to the Stated and Permanent Clerks, in reference to matters pertaining to their official duties.

The secretary of the Assembly's Permanent Committee on Education for the Gospel Ministry presented written reports, from the Auburn Theological Seminary, from the Blackburn Theological Seminary, and from the Lane Theological Seminary. A verbal statement was also made, with regard to the Union Theological Seminary, by Rev. Roswell D. Hitchcock, D. D.

The reports were accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Education.

The Assembly proceeded to hear the Delegates from Corresponding Bodies in such communications as they desired to present; when the Rev. Hugh McMillan, D. D., from the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church; Rev. Silas McKeen, from the General Convention of Vermont; Rev. Joseph R. Page, from the General Association of Connecticut; and Rev. Jeremiah Porter, from the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, severally addressed the Assembly.

The Rev. Hugh McMillan, D. D., being about to leave the Assembly, the Moderator responded to his address.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, that the discourse of Rev. Sherman B. Canfield, D. D., on "The Reunion of the Synods of New York and Philadelphia, or the Healing of the Great Schism in 1758," be delivered on Wednesday evening at 7½ o'clock; and the sermon on Home Missions at 2½ o'clock on Thursday afternoon.

They also reported, that the Lord's Supper be administered in the First Presbyterian church at 7½ o'clock on Thursday evening; and the sermon on Publication by Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., be delivered in the Second church at 7½ o'clock on Friday evening.

The report was adopted.

The Assembly proceeded to determine the place for the meeting of the next Assembly, and made choice of the city of Wilmington, Del[582]aware. Rev. John W. Dulles, Rev. Cornelius Earle, Jr., and J. Marshall Paul, M. D., were appointed to designate the particular church, and to nominate the *Committee of Arrangements.*

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 25th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the calling of the Roll was dispensed with for the remainder of the sessions.

The following new Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were entered upon the Roll:

Elder William Bothwell, from the Presbytery of Dubuque.

" John E. Dutton, " " Oswego.

The Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions presented their annual report. In connection with its consideration, a memorial upon the same subject was read, and resolutions were proposed. The whole subject was referred to a Committee, consisting of Rev. George P. Tindall, Rev. Jacob Little, D. D., and J. Marshall Paul, M. D.

The Permanent Committee on Education for the Gospel Ministry presented their annual report. The report was accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee on Education.

Its consideration was made the first order of the day for Thursday morning.

The Assembly entered upon the consideration of the report of the Judicial Committee in relation to the appeal of the Rev. George Sheldon, which was continued until the time of adjournment.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, May 25th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the report of the Judicial Committee on the appeal of the Rev. George Sheldon. After discussion, the Assembly adopted so much of the report as declares the appeal to be in order; and made the consideration of the appeal the second order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The Standing Committee on Publication, to whom was referred the annual report of the Publication Committee, and the annual report [583] of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, presented their report. The report was accepted, and, after several amendments, was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Publication would present to the General Assembly the following report and recommendations upon the documents referred to them:

Upon a memorial from the Presbyterian church of Brighton, Ill., asking that the Psalms of Dr. Watts, "mainly as he wrote them," be restored to the "Church Psalmist," they recommend that it is not expedient to take any action.

They further recommend the adoption, by the Assembly, of the fourth annual report of the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, and the re-election, as Trustees of this House, of Messrs. John A. Brown and Matthew W. Baldwin, Rev. Thos. Brainerd, D. D., and Rev. George Chandler, whose term of

office expires during the present sessions of the Assembly; also the election of Mr. Samuel H. Perkins in place of the Hon. William Darling.

The sixth annual report of the Publication Committee presents to the Assembly matters of grave interest. This Committee is now in such a position, that it must either be vigorously sustained, or virtually abandoned. During the past year it has received, from churches outside of the bounds of the Philadelphia Presbyteries, only $\$622\frac{61}{100}$, while the Third and Fourth Presbyteries of Philadelphia contributed $\$7566\frac{94}{100}$. The balance remaining in the Treasury, $\$1115\frac{90}{100}$, is more than covered by outstanding claims. Upon the first of July next, these claims, beyond the foreseen available resources, will amount to the sum of $3000. The Permanent Committee assure us, that the sum absolutely needed for the next year is $10,000; and that $6000 more are required for the publication of the Tune Book, the Digest of the Assembly's Acts, the Chant Book, and a few minor works. They ask, and justly, that the Assembly should take some action that will relieve the Committee of their too onerous responsibility; individual members of the Committee having given their own notes to meet outstanding obligations.

In this state of the facts, your Committee have given to this subject their earnest consideration. The present seems to be a turning-point in respect to our whole publication interest, whether it shall live or die. Our whole Church is under the deepest obligations to our brethren in Philadelphia, for the zeal and self-sacrificing spirit with which they have carried out the injunctions of the Assembly, so far as they were able, in the midst of the serious financial embarrassments of the past year, and so slightly cheered by apparent sympathy from other quarters. And these brethren now ask of us, as a matter of common justice, some definite action and practicable plan.

Your Committee have considered the various projects and divers objections which have been suggested in respect to the whole subject. One plan proposed was, that the Permanent Committee should cease to publish, and simply recommend to one or more book-selling establishments such works and tracts as might be needed. This would [584] avoid the necessity of raising the capital for publication; but it would, at the same time, give the larger part of the profits to the booksellers; and the Assembly would also become involved, to some extent, in the vicissitudes of the publishing house, with which their contracts might be made. Another plan proposed has been, that the Committee should publish as far as their means allow, and make a contract with some publishing house for such other works as might be needed. If it should be found wholly impracticable to raise the required capital, and if the publication of the works is demanded, some such temporary arrangement might be made; though your Committee do not formally recommend it.

We are unanimously agreed, that the good faith of our Church is pledged to the Permanent Committee on Publication, not only for the carrying forward of the works already in hand, but also for the means of continued progress; though, for the next year, this must be to a limited extent. No new work of any magnitude can be begun before the present projects are safely completed. The payments pledged for this year upon the "Church Psalmist" must be met, or we are involved in a total loss of $3000, and also in the prospective loss of $1000 to $2000 annual revenue. The apparently large amount ($10,000) given for this work is justified, on the ground of its permanent value as a fund. Any desired alterations can be made, whenever the Assembly shall so order. The Digest of the Assembly's Acts, now ready for the press, will be a welcome, as it is a needed, work in our churches. The publication of the Tune and Chant Books, not being so urgent, may well be left to the discretion of the Committee and the state of the fund.

In conclusion, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolves:

1. That the sum of $16,000 be raised for the use of the Publication Committee, for the ensuing year; and that the sum be apportioned among our Synods in the same ratio as was the Church Erection Fund.

2. That the collection for this cause be made in all our churches on the third Sabbath in June; and that, if the sum of $16,000 be not realized by this collection, the Committee be authorized to employ agents for this purpose.

3. That, inasmuch as the time, appointed for this collection in behalf of the cause of Publication, occurs before the stated meetings of the several Synods, the Committee be directed to communicate to the pastors this action of the Assembly, with such information as will aid them in presenting the subject to their churches.

4. That the annual sermon on Publication be preached before the General Assembly of 1859, by the Rev. Albert Barnes, principal, and Rev. S. M. Hopkins, D. D., alternate.

5. That the appointment upon the Committee of Rev. William E. Moore, in place of Rev. A. H. H. Boyd, D. D., and Mr. Benjamin T. Tredick, in place of Mr. Samuel H. Perkins, and Mr. John C. Farr, in place of Mr. Samuel T. Bodine, be confirmed; and that Rev. Albert Barnes, Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., [585] Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., and Rev. George F. Wiswell, whose term of service expires, be re-elected as members of the Committee.

6. That the supplement to the hymns now in the course of preparation by Rev. N. S. S. Beman, D. D., Rev. Albert Barnes, and Samuel W. Fisher, D. D., be communicated to the Committee instead of the Assembly; and that the Committee be authorized to revise and publish the same.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Book of Tunes adapted to the "Church Psalmist," presented the following report:

The Committee on the Preparation of a Book of Tunes respectfully report to the General Assembly, that the work intrusted to them is in progress and will shortly be completed. It was not until near the close of the last year that they received notice of their appointment by the Publication Committee. Shortly after, they addressed a circular letter to the ministers in connection with the Assembly, requesting them to confer with the leader of music in their respective congregations, and forward such information and suggestions on the whole subject as occurred to them. Numerous responses have been received, some of them of great value, and the most of them giving assurance of hearty co-operation in the work. From every part of the Church, almost without exception, the call has been made for congregational singing. "Give us the good old tunes that our fathers sung, the tunes that our children love, the tunes that all can use, in the worship of God." Such is the demand; and the Committee will endeavor to comply with it, fully persuaded as they themselves are that it is both Scriptural and reasonable. The work will be carefully prepared under the supervision of a competent professor of sacred music.

If the Assembly desire, as some have suggested, a Hymn Book with tunes incorporated, after the manner of the "Temple Melodies," it will be necessary for them to give the Committee specific instructions to that effect.

The report was adopted.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension presented a report in reference to the annual report of the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, to whom was referred the report of the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, in reporting upon the same, would simply present the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That while we regard the whole course of the Trustees, during the past year, as worthy of our approval, we especially approve, in their disbursement of the Church Erection Fund, their rigid adherence to that portion of the Assembly's plan which restricts the Board from loaning or donating any portion of the Fund to any congregation, unless such congregation own in fee simple and free from incumbrance the lot on which their house of worship is already, or is to be, erected. And we would recommend a rigid adherence to [586] this feature of the plan, for the future, regarding such a course as especially adapted to secure an increasing confidence in the Assembly's plan, and increasing donations from its friends.

Resolved, 2. That the following words be added to the first paragraph in section three of the Fourteenth article of the plan, namely, "And in case any church or congregation receiving a loan shall afterwards withdraw from the General Assembly, the whole amount unpaid shall at once become due."

Resolved, 3. That Messrs. Oliver H. Lee, William E. Dodge, and Walter S. Griffith, Trustees of the Church Erection Fund, whose term of office has expired, be nominated for re-election, to hold their office till June, 1861.

The same Committee presented a report, in relation to the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension.

The report was accepted.

The special Committee, to whom was referred the communications from the Presbytery of Harmony, and of the Commissioner from the "United Synod of the Presbyterian Church," presented their report. It was accepted and placed upon the docket.

The Committee, appointed to audit the accounts of the Treasurer of the General Assembly, reported that they had examined them, with the accompanying vouchers, and found them correct. The report was adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 26th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioner presented his credentials, and his name was entered upon the Roll:

Rev. Theodore Spencer, from the Presbytery of Utica.

Rev. Roswell D. Hitchcock, D. D., Rev. Henry B. Holmes, and Elder Ebenezer B. Jones, were appointed a *Committee to nominate Delegates* to Corresponding Bodies.

It was made the order of the day for Friday morning, at 10 o'clock, to receive the reports of the Committees on Synodical Records.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz., the consideration of the complaint of the Rev. Thompson Bird in behalf of the Presbytery of Des Moines, against the Synod of Iowa, on account of their decision in the case of the Rev. James H. Shields.

The Moderator read the 39th Rule, reminding the Assembly of the solemn judicial business on which they were about to enter. [587]

All the documents having been read, the Assembly heard the original parties in the case.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported the following order of services for the celebration of the Lord's Supper, on Thursday evening:

1. The Moderator to preside.
2. Prayer and reading of the Scriptures, by the Rev. Jeremiah Porter.
3. Address and administration of the Bread, by the Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D.
4. Prayer and administration of the Cup, by the Rev. Robert W. Landis.
5. Address, by the Rev. Elias J. Richards.
6. Hymn and Benediction, by the Moderator.

Also, that the distribution of the elements be committed to the following elders: Sylvester Willard, M. D., Hon. Charles Noble, Chester B. Rushmore, Calvin Bishop, J. Marshall Paul, M. D., Thomas Farnham, James W. Bishop, John S. B. Kelso, M. D., Lyman Wilder, Jeremiah Holt, John G. Weeks, and George L. Massey.

The standing rule on Mileage, limiting the time for the presentation of bills of expenses to the fourth day of the sessions of the Assembly, was, for the present Assembly, altered so as to extend it to the sixth day.

It was made the first order of the day for this afternoon, to consider the report of the special Committee on the communications of the Presbytery of Harmony, and of the Commissioner from the "United Synod of the Presbyterian Church."

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, May 26th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The following additional Commissioners presented their credentials, and their names were added to the Roll:

Elder Elijah Dewitt, from the Presbytery of Elyria.

" E. Percival Wilcox, " " Chenango.

A special *Committee*, consisting of Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., Rev. Samuel H. Hall, Rev. George P. Tindall, Thomas W. Fry, M. D., and Albert P. Brayton, was appointed, to consider the whole question *of Mileage* in connection with the present Assembly.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly cordially approve of the resolution adopted at the late special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education at the West, which was in these words: [588]

"*Resolved*, That, in the judgment of this Board, the churches, connected with the denominations which co-operate in this Society, can render no more effectual service to the cause of Christian learning at the West, than to furnish the means for the speedy completion of the final effort in behalf of colleges in States east of the Mississippi."

Resolved, 2. That it be earnestly recommended to the churches connected with this body, to do their just share of what is necessary for the completion of this work.

Resolved, 3. That a regard to their own highest interest, and to the evangelization of the West, requires also, on the part of these churches, a prompt and generous response to the appeals of the Society in behalf of younger institutions west of the Mississippi.

The Assembly proceeded to the consideration of the report of the special

Committee on the Communications of the Presbytery of Harmony; and of the Commissioner from the "United Synod of the Presbyterian Church."

The report was adopted and is as follows:

The Committee, to whom were referred the communications from the Presbytery of Harmony, and from the "United Synod of the Presbyterian Church," beg leave to recommend the following resolutions as the action of the Assembly, in relation to these communications:

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly recognize and reciprocate the friendly greetings and fraternal spirit evinced in these communications, as well as in the Christian bearing and courtesy of the Rev. A. H. H. Boyd, D. D., the accredited representative of the United Synod.

Resolved, 2. That this Assembly regret the unnatural separation which these bodies have felt themselves constrained to create, by the action which they have taken, both because of our family affinities and sympathies, and because it weakens our ability, and diminishes our opportunities, for mutual aid and encouragement, in the great work for which the Church exists. We had hoped, that, by perpetuating our relations, by kind interchange of views, and mutual prayers, and by that light which time and patient inquiry secure, we should ultimately be of one mind touching the subject of Slavery, as we now are in relation to other moral questions.

Resolved, 3. That the consideration and adjustment of the claims to the funds of the Assembly preferred by the Presbytery of Harmony and the United Synod, be postponed to the next General Assembly for the following reasons: (1.) That suitable time may be given for a full examination of questions bearing on the equitable character, and of the legal consequences, of granting the claims preferred. (2.) That the Assembly may be able to ascertain what and how many churches under the care of the Presbyteries and Synods, which have withdrawn or may withdraw from our connection, may desire to retain their relations to the Assembly, and whose claim to a share in the distribution of the Church Erection Fund will consequently remain undisputed. (3.) That the final adjustment of these [589] claims, made as the result of due deliberation, mutual conference of the parties, and prayer to Him who giveth wisdom to his servants, may be satisfactory, if possible, to all concerned.

Resolved, 4. That the whole subject of these claims be referred to the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund to consider and report thereon to the next General Assembly.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the complaint of the Rev. Thompson Bird, in behalf of the Presbytery of Des Moines, against the Synod of Iowa, on account of their decision in the case of the Rev. James H. Shields, and all the parties in the case were heard.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 27th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Illinois Central Railroad Company tendered to the Assembly an invitation to an excursion upon their road, as far as Onarga. The invitation was accepted for Saturday.

In the case of the complaint of the Rev. Thompson Bird, in behalf of Des Moines Presbytery, against the Synod of Iowa, on account of their decision in the case of the Rev. James H. Shields, the members of the inferior judica-

tory having retired, the Roll was called and an opportunity given for every member to express his opinion.

Before the business was concluded, the Assembly adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 27th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The annual sermon on Home Missions was preached, agreeably to previous appointment, by the Rev. Jacob Little, D. D., of the Presbytery of Pataskala.

After which, the Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 1, relating to the preparation of a summary of Christian doctrine to be used in receiving members into the Church.

The Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution: That, in view of the want of uniformity in the formulas used by the churches, under the care of the General Assembly, in the reception of members, this Assembly propose and recommend a sum[590]mary of the doctrines taught in our Confession of Faith; together with a form of covenant, and send the same down to the several Presbyteries, with directions to them to send their answers to the next General Assembly.

That a Committee consisting of three ministers and two elders, be appointed to draft such summary of doctrine and form of covenant, and report to this Assembly as soon as convenient.

The report was adopted. Rev. Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., Rev. Jacob Little, D. D., Rev. Peter Snyder, and Elders J. Marshall Paul, M. D., and Jeremiah Holt, were appointed the *Committee.*

The special Committee on the subject of Mileage presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The special Committee on Mileage beg leave to report,

That the arrangement of the matter referred to them is embarrassed by the facts, that so large a number of Presbyteries (43) have paid nothing to the Fund; and that, of those who have paid, some fall short of the amount assessed, and others, having first paid the expenses of their Commissioners, give but a small amount to this Fund.

The Committee can discover no method of relieving the present difficulty, that will not appear to press unequally on the Presbyteries who have contributed in whole or in part to this Fund. But they recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, as adjusting the affair as equitably as possible:

1. Those Presbyteries which have paid in part shall have the privilege of paying their assessments in full until one o'clock to-morrow.

2. Those Presbyteries which do not pay in full may withdraw from the Mileage Committee the sums which they have paid, less 60 cents for each minister in the Presbytery, which shall be retained by the Committee for the contingent expenses.

3. The amount in the hands of the Mileage Committee, received from the Presbyteries which have paid in full, after the deduction of a proper proportion to meet the contingent expenses, shall be divided *pro rata* among the Presbyteries which have contributed it.

4. Those Presbyteries which have paid nothing are required to pay now 60 cents per minister, for the contingent expenses, or to give to the Stated Clerk assurance that the amount shall be paid at a fixed time.

The unfinished business of the morning, viz., the consideration of the

complaint against the Synod of Iowa, was resumed, and continued to the time of adjournment.

Adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday, May 27th, 7½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, agreeably to previous arrangement, in the First Presbyterian church, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper; [591] and in union with a large number of Christians, who accepted the invitation to participate with them, united in the celebration of this ordinance.

Friday, May 28th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved.

The Committee, appointed to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, presented their report, which was accepted and placed upon the docket.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 3, a memorial on the subject of Slavery, from the Presbytery of Franklin.

In reply, the Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Assembly, while extending to the memorialists assurances of Christian consideration and regard, can answer their prayer only by referring them to the acts of past Assemblies, as being, in our judgment, all that the General Assembly can properly do on the subject of the memorial.

The report was adopted.

The Committee also reported, that a memorial from the Presbytery of Blue Earth has been placed in their hands, praying that a new Synod may be created, to consist of the Presbyteries of Blue Earth, Minnesota, and Dacotah, which last Presbytery is not now in connection with any higher ecclesiastical body. There has also been placed in the hands of the Committee a certified copy of a resolution by the Presbytery of Minnesota, concurring with said memorial from the Presbytery of Blue Earth. They have further received verbal information, from the Commissioner of the Presbytery of Minnesota, that it is believed that the members of the Presbytery of Dacotah are favorable towards the arrangement, though no definite communication has been received from the Presbytery itself.

The said Presbytery of Dacotah not being now under the jurisdiction of the Assembly, it is not competent for this body absolutely to create the proposed Synod according to the prayer of the memorialists. But inasmuch as it is urged upon the Committee that a strong necessity exists for the immediate construction of such a Synod, they recommend to the Assembly the following action:

Resolved, 1. That the Presbyteries of Blue Earth and Minnesota be directed to meet at St. Paul, Minnesota, in the First Presbyterian church, on the second Wednesday of September, 1858, at 7 o'clock P. M., with the view of uniting, if the way be prepared, with the Presbytery of Dacotah, in the organization of a Synod.

Resolved, 2. That the Stated Clerk of the Assembly address a [592] letter to the Presbytery of Dacotah, inviting them to meet with the Presbyteries of Blue Earth and Minnesota, at the above time and place, and, if the way be prepared, to become incorporated with them in a Synod under the care of this General Assembly.

Resolved, 3. That, in the event of compliance with this invitation by the

Presbytery of Dacotah, the Presbyteries of Blue Earth, Minnesota, and Dacotah shall then and there become a Synod under the name of the Synod of Minnesota; and that the Rev. Thomas S. Williams, or in case of his absence, the oldest minister present, shall preach a sermon, and preside until a new Moderator be chosen.

The report was adopted.

The following new apportionment of the Church Erection Fund was thereupon voted by the Assembly:

Resolved, That the apportionment of the Church Erection Fund be as follows for the next year, namely:

Albany,	2.5 per cent.	Ohio,	3 per cent.
Alta California,	6 "	Onondaga,	2.5 "
Cincinnati,	3 "	Pennsylvania,	3 "
Genesee,	2 "	Peoria,	5 "
Geneva,	2 "	Susquehanna,	3 "
Illinois,	6 "	Tennessee,	3 "
Indiana,	4 "	Utica,	2 "
Iowa,	7 "	Virginia,	3.5 "
Kentucky,	2 "	Wabash,	3 "
Michigan,	8 "	Western Reserve,	4 "
Minnesota,	6 "	W. Pennsylvania,	3 "
Mississippi,	2.5 "	West Tennessee,	3 "
Missouri,	2 "	Wisconsin,	6 "
N. Y. and N. J.,	3 "		

The above apportionment takes one per cent. from the Synod of Alta California, one from Peoria, one from Tennessee, one from Wabash, one from Iowa, and one from Western Reserve, and thus gives six per cent. to the new Synod of Minnesota.

The Committee appointed to designate the church and to nominate a Committee of Arrangements, for the next General Assembly, recommended that the sessions be held in the Central Presbyterian church of Wilmington, Del., and that the *Committee of Arrangements* consist of Rev. George F. Wiswell, Rev. William Aikman, and Elders L. P. Bush, E. T. Taylor, I. W. Day, Hon. William Hall, Thos. C. Alrich, and John B. Porter.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of yesterday, viz., the complaint against the Synod of Iowa, and continued its consideration to the time of adjournment.

Adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer. [593]

Friday, May 28th, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that leave had been given to Rev. Edwin Hall, D. D., Rev. James Cochrane, and Rev. James McLaurin. Also to Messrs. Jarvis Carman, David Crouse, Daniel S. Bearer, Elias Kumler, Benjamin Bangs, Daniel B. Green, Henry D. Ranney, M. D., and Albert P. Brayton; and to Rev. E. J. Richards, Rev. William S. Karr, Rev. R. D. Hitchcock, D. D., Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., and Rev. Daniel Russell; also to Messrs. H. N. Bushnell and B. D. Stewart.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of the morning, viz., the complaint against the Synod of Iowa. Every member having had an opportunity to express his opinion in the case, the Roll was

called, and the complaint of the Presbytery of Des Moines against the Synod of Iowa, in the case of Rev. James H. Shields, was sustained by a vote of 106 to 52. Excused from voting, 1.

The Rev. Messrs. Theodore Spencer, James Eells, and John W. Dulles, with Hon. Arnold Naudain, M. D., and Thomas W. Fry, M. D., were appointed a Committee to prepare a minute on this case.

The Committee on the Polity of the Church reported a petition of the church of Superior, to be transferred from the Presbytery of Minnesota to the Presbytery of Lake Superior, recommending that the request be granted. The report was adopted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported, that they had received a memorial from several individuals, members of different Presbyteries, under the care of the General Assembly, praying the Assembly to provide, that, in exceptional cases, churches and congregations may receive aid in building houses of worship, beyond the limited amount now offered by the Church Erection Fund; and also an Overture from the Presbytery of Iowa on the same subject. The Committee recommend, that the papers be referred to the Board of Trustees of the Church Erection Fund. The report was adopted.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported supplies for various pulpits in the city and vicinity for the ensuing Sabbath.

Adjourned until Monday, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 31st, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to hear the reports of the Committees on the Synodical Records; and, on the recommendation of the respective [594] Committees, the Records of the following Synods were approved as far as written: Albany, Utica, Geneva, Onondaga, Genesee, New York and New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Pennsylvania, Michigan, Western Reserve, Ohio, Cincinnati, Indiana, Wabash, Peoria, Wisconsin, and Iowa.

It was made the first order of the day for this afternoon to elect Trustees of the Presbyterian House, and of the Church Erection Fund.

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Assembly be returned to the Illinois Central Railroad Company and its managers, for the pleasant excursion afforded us on the line of their road on Saturday last; and also to the residents at Onarga and elsewhere, whose efforts and generous hospitalities contributed so fully to render the excursion pleasant.

Resolved, That we are highly gratified to learn of the enlightened efforts of this company for the promotion of good morals, and the diffusion of a religious influence, wherever their operations extend—by the employment of a chaplain or missionary, whose office it is to secure the distribution of a pure and healthful literature, and the repression of one which is vicious. in and about their cars; and by generous endeavors to secure the establishment of Sunday-schools and churches in the different towns along their route; evincing that this company is governed by the conviction, that religion is the basis of true prosperity in communities and in States; and that distinct efforts to secure its establishment are not without the scope of companies whose first ends are of a secular character.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that they had given leave to the Rev. Messrs T. M. Hopkins, Milton Bradley, Israel S. Twombly, Ben-

jamin Russell, and Augustus Pomeroy; and to the Elders Ebenezer B. Jones, Abraham Waugh, Ira Taylor, and Asa H. Holden.

Reports were received from the Delegates appointed by the last Assembly to Corresponding Bodies, viz., from the Rev. John Tompkins, the Delegate to the General Conference of Maine; Rev. A. Bordman Lambert, D. D., the Delegate to the General Convention of Vermont; Rev. Albert T. Chester. D. D., the Delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; Rev. Daniel C. Houghton, the Delegate to the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin; and Rev. William N. Parks, the Delegate to the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

The reports were accepted, and ordered to be published in the Appendix to the Minutes.

A communication was received and read from the Union of the Evangelical Churches of France.

The report of the Committee to nominate Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, previously accepted, was taken from the docket, adopted, and is as follows:

General Association of Massachusetts—Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., principal; and Rev. Eber M. Rollo, alternate. [595]

General Association of Connecticut—Rev. Robert R. Booth, principal; and Rev. Daniel T. Wood, alternate.

General Association of New Hampshire—Rev. Baruch B. Beckwith, principal; and Rev. Edward Lord, alternate.

General Conference of Maine—Rev. Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., principal; and Rev. Samuel T. Seelye, alternate.

General Convention of Vermont—Rev. Andrew J. Fennell, principal; and Rev. Beriah B. Hotchkin, alternate.

Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin—Rev. Charles P. Bush, principal; and Rev. John N. Powell, alternate.

General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church—Rev. Jacob Little, D. D., principal; and Rev. James J. Blaisdell, alternate.

General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church—Rev. George F. Wiswell, principal; and Rev. George C. Curtis, alternate.

General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church—Rev. John W. Bailey, principal; and Rev. Livingston M. Glover, alternate.

General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church—Rev. Henry Darling, principal; and Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D., alternate.

Synod of the German Reformed Church—Rev. William M. Cheever, principal; and Rev. Henry Kendall, alternate.

Union of the Evangelical Churches of France—Rev. John Spaulding, principal; and Rev. William W. Newell, alternate.

The special Committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions, together with a resolution and memorial on the same subject, recommend the following:

1. That the report of the Permanent Committee be approved. And we are grateful to God for the efficiency and harmony with which we have been enabled to prosecute the great work of Foreign Missions through the medium of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

2. That, in addition to the duties already devolved upon this Committee, it be made their further duty to ascertain, as far as possible, to what extent the churches in connection with the General Assembly are engaged in the work of Foreign Missions, and report the same to the next General Assem-

bly. And that these missionary operations in which our churches are engaged, be made the subject of an annual report to the Assembly by this Committee.

In which reports, they shall spread before the Assembly such information as is calculated to excite and deepen an interest in this subject, and foster and develop the spirit of missions; giving the number of foreign missionaries of our Church who are in the field, the number of candidates for this work, the amount of annual contributions, so far as practicable, and the degree of interest which is manifested in this cause throughout our churches; together with the measure of success that has attended missionary effort; and communicate any information [596] which they can gain, that may stimulate and develop foreign missionary enterprise.

3. That the Presbyteries, through their Stated Clerks, or a committee appointed for that purpose, furnish to the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions all the information on this subject that may be sought or they be able to furnish. And further, that the Presbyteries and Synods give special attention to this subject, adopting such measures as may rouse the spirit of missions among the churches.

And at this time, in view of the depressed state of the treasury of the American Board, we would exhort our people to increased liberality towards this great cause which is one arm of the Church of God on earth.

4. That the memorial on Mexico and Central and South America, as a field for missionary labors, be referred to the Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions to report to the next General Assembly.

5. That a Standing Committee on Foreign Missions be annually appointed, who shall have charge of this general subject in the sessions of the Assembly.

6. That Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D., Rev. Asa D. Smith, D. D., Rev. John McLeod, Rev. James W. McLane, D. D., and Rev. Alfred E. Campbell, D. D., be elected to fill the places of those whose terms of office regularly expire at this time. And that the Stated Clerk be directed to inform the members of this Committee of the present action of the Assembly, that they may organize at as early a day as possible to carry out the object herein set forth.

A communication was received from a member of the Committee of Conference with the American Home Missionary Society. In connection with it a series of resolutions was proposed. Both of the papers were referred to a special Committee, consisting of Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., Rev. George W. Gale, D. D., and Rev. Daniel Clark, to report to-day at 3 o'clock P. M.

It was also *Resolved*, that the report of the Standing Committee on Church Extension be considered in connection with the above report.

The Standing Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry, presented their report.

It was accepted; and pending the question of its adoption, the Assembly adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 31st, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A communication was received from the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, in relation to correspondence [597] with the Assembly. The Delegate already appointed was instructed to present himself to the Synod of "the United Presbyterian Church," recently formed by the union of the Associate, and the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that they had given leave

to Rev. Silas H. Ashmun, Rev. Caleb Mills, LL.D., Rev. Eli W. Beebe, Rev. Eleroy Curtis, Rev. James Sinclair, Rev. Philip Bevan, Rev. William C. Turner; and the Elders, William L. Lee, Zebulon Ostrom, James Deans, Lyman Dayton, and William Bothwell.

The Committee, appointed to prepare an arrangement of the Book of Psalms for chanting, reported in part, and were continued.

The Committee appointed to prepare a minute in the case of Rev. James H. Shields, presented a report. After discussion, the whole subject was, with instructions, referred to a new Committee consisting of Rev. Samuel H. Gridley, D. D., Rev. G. R. H. Shumway, Rev. Lewis Hamilton, Hon John Porter, and Mr. Charles Taintor.

The Assembly resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, viz., the report of the Standing Committee on Education. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee, to whom was referred the annual report of the Permanent Committee on Education, report the following resolutions, and recommend their adoption:

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly find, in the practical workings of the plan for Ministerial Education inaugurated by the last Assembly, reason to regard it with increasing confidence, and consider it eminently wise and admirably adapted to develop the zeal and activity of the whole Church in this department of her duty.

Resolved, 2. That, in laying the foundation for this work in a living Christianity, and devolving the execution of it on individual churches and Presbyteries, the Assembly has proposed the most evangelical and effective method of accomplishing this enterprise.

Resolved, 3. That, while the responsibility of performing this part of her mission rests on the Christian parents and the individual members and elders of the Church, it also presses, with peculiar weight, on our ministers; and, from a becoming spirit and example in their daily labor, and a faithful and frequent presentation, to Christian parents and youth, of their obligations of covenanted consecration, the happiest results may be reasonably expected.

Resolved, 4. That it is deeply to be lamented, that the Saviour's command, "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth laborers into his harvest," has so extensively passed from the minds and hearts of his people; and this Assembly admonish all its ministers and churches of this neglect, earnestly exhorting them to give appropriate attention to it in their private, domestic, social, and public devotions; and especially to remember it at the monthly concert, as well as at the annual concert of prayer for educational institutions, on the last Thursday of February.

Resolved, 5. That, inasmuch as a large number of Presbyteries [598] have disregarded the urgent recommendation of the last Assembly, (Minutes, page 389,) to forward full reports of their action in reference to Ministerial Education, this Assembly re-adopts that recommendation, considering a faithful compliance with it, essential to a successful enlistment of the whole Church in this important enterprise.

Resolved, 6. That it is highly desirable, that the subject of the increase of the ministry should be annually presented to the churches, on the Sabbath preceding or succeeding the annual concert of prayer for our educational institutions; that contributions be made on one of the Sabbaths above named, when it will not interfere with, or disturb, systematic arrangements already adopted; and that it is the high privilege and imperative duty of every church, however small or feeble, to contribute to this cause.

Resolved, 7. That it is the conviction of this Assembly, that a large and

useful increase of the ministry cannot be secured without constant vigilance, on the part of the Presbyteries, in the introduction of men into the sacred office, in arrangements to direct their labors and facilitate their settlement, and in holding them to a just responsibility in the discharge of their work; and also without a disposition, on the part of the churches, to furnish it with an adequate and equitable support.

Resolved, 8. That this Assembly approve of the act of incorporation, obtained by the Permanent Committee of Education, from the Legislature of New York, and of its acceptance by that Committee; and that said Committee, thus incorporated, is hereby cordially and confidently recommended to such persons as may be disposed to devote property to ministerial education, as a safe and responsible agency for its investment and disbursement.

Resolved, 9. That the Assembly recommend, as a general principle, that candidates for the ministry, especially those who are connected with churches under the care of our newer and smaller Presbyteries, retain their church and presbyterial relations unchanged during the progress of their studies.

Resolved, 10. That the Permanent Committee be directed to publish their annual report, or such portions of it as they may deem desirable.

The Committee also nominate William E. Dodge, Jr., as a suitable person to fill the place of Mr. Anson G. Phelps, recently deceased, and the following as suitable persons to fill the vacancies created by the expiration of office in the Permanent Committee, viz.:

William A. Booth, Rev. John Jenkins, Rev. James P. Wilson, D. D., Rev. A. E. Campbell, D. D,, and Mr. P. H. Porter.

The Standing Committee on Education, in relation to the reports from the Union, Auburn, Lane, and Blackburn Theological Seminaries, would further recommend the adoption of the following minute:

That this Assembly rejoices to hear of the continued prosperity of these schools of the prophets, in the increased number of their students, [599] and the gracious visitation of the Spirit so richly experienced by those who are soon to assume the responsibilities of the sacred office; and most cordially commend these Seminaries to the sympathies of the Church, and the generous aid of those whom God has blessed with the means of placing them on a pecuniary basis, that will enlarge their usefulness and secure their permanence.

The Committee would also suggest the propriety of the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Assembly expresses its deep conviction of the wisdom and necessity of placing our Colleges on such a pecuniary foundation, as to accomplish most effectually the purpose of their establishment; and, inasmuch as they are an essential part of our educational system, it earnestly recommends, to the churches and Presbyteries, the exercise of a wise discretion in the location of such institutions, and that they gather around those already established by pioneer faith and zeal, with a cordial sympathy and corresponding liberality.

The Committee on the case of the Rev. James H. Shields, presented a minute, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed to prepare a minute on the complaint against the Synod of Iowa in the case of the Rev. James H. Shields, report as follows:

In the year 1853, Maria C. Cowles presented a petition under oath to the District Court of Wayne County, Iowa, praying for a divorce from her husband, William A. Cowles, in which it was stated substantially, that she had

been lawfully married to said Cowles in January, 1839, in the State of Massachusetts; that they had lived together there until August, 1851, when she separated herself from him, and proceeded to Iowa, where she has since resided. That, previous to her departing from him in 1851, her husband was in the habit of becoming intoxicated, and when so intoxicated, was ill-natured and abusive—so much so, that her situation as his wife became intolerable; and she had been under the necessity of leaving his house and of making her own living since that time, the defendant having neglected to make provision for her support since the period of her separation from him. No pertinent proof of the truth of these allegations was made; but the court, notwithstanding, granted her a divorce *a vinculo matrimonii;* when James A. Shields, then a member of the Presbytery of Des Moines, being cognizant of all the facts in the case, was married to the said Maria C. Cowles, and has continued to cohabit with her as his wife. In April, 1856, the Presbytery instituted proceedings against him for adultery, and finally convicted him of that offence, and deposed him from the ministry and excommunicated him from the church. Thereupon the said Shields appealed to the Synod of Iowa, who reversed the decision of the Presbytery. The case is before this General Assembly on a complaint of the Rev. Thompson Bird, on behalf of the Presbytery, against the action of Synod.

In view of all the testimony brought before the Assembly, the complaint is sustained.

It has not been made to appear, that the said Maria C. Cowles [600] attempted to establish the fact of adultery against her husband, William A. Cowles. Neither has there been proved "such willful desertion" on his part, "as can no way be remedied by the Church or civil magistrate," as is recognized in the Confession of Faith (Chap. XXIV., sec. 6) as "cause sufficient of dissolving the bond of marriage."

The General Assembly do, therefore, consider that the said James H. Shields was properly convicted of adultery; and the decision of the Synod of Iowa in this case is hereby reversed, and the judgment of the Presbytery of Des Moines therein confirmed.

The Assembly, whilst rendering this decision, takes occasion to call the attention of the churches under its care to a tendency, manifest in some portions of our country, to relax the sacredness of the marriage tie. Lying, as the institution of marriage does, at the very foundation of order, purity, and prosperity in the State and in the Church, the Assembly cannot view without abhorrence any attempt to diminish its sanctity or to extend beyond the warrant of the Holy Scriptures the grounds of divorce.

Mr. John A. Brown, Mr. Matthew W. Baldwin, Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. George Chandler, and Mr. Samuel H. Perkins, were elected as Trustees of the Presbyterian House.

Messrs. Oliver H. Lee, William E. Dodge, and Walter S. Griffith, were elected Trustees of the Church Erection Fund.

Messrs. Christopher R. Robert, Samuel M. Blatchford, and George D. Cragin, were appointed the *Committee to audit* the accounts of the Treasurer of the Church Erection Fund.

Messrs. William E. Dodge, Jr., and William A. Booth, Rev. John Jenkins, Rev. A. E. Campbell, D. D., and Mr. P. H. Porter, were elected members of the Permanent Committee on Education for the Gospel Ministry.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient for the Assembly to proceed to the election of Trustees of the General Assembly, and of Directors of the Theological Seminaries for the present year.

Rev. George R. H. Shumway, Rev. Peter Snyder, and Mr. Joab Tyler

were appointed a *Committee to nominate a preacher* on Home Missions for the next Assembly.

The Assembly entered upon the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Church Extension, already accepted, which was continued until the time of adjournment.

The special Committee on Home Missions, to whom was referred the documents on this subject presented this morning, reported. The report was accepted and placed upon the docket.

It was made the first order of the evening session, to hear the Narrative on the State of Religion.

Adjourned until 7½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday, May 31st, 7½ P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved. [601]

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, and the Committee on the Narrative of the State of Religion made their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Committee, appointed to nominate a preacher on Home Missions, reported, recommending that the Rev. Philemon H. Fowler, D. D., preach the sermon, and the Rev. James Eells be his alternate; and their report was adopted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a memorial from several individuals of the Synods of Illinois and Peoria, asking that the bounds of these two Synods may be defined. The Committee recommend, that the request of the memorialists be granted; and that the boundary lines of these two Synods be such as are specified in the memorial, as follows: The south line of the counties of Henderson, McDonough, Fulton, Mason, Tazewell, and Dewitt, the first township line south of Urbana in Champaign Co., and the first township line north of Danville in Vermillion Co., Illinois.

The Committee to whom was referred the preparation of a Summary of Doctrine, presented a request for an extension of time, and to be permitted to report to the next Assembly; which was granted.

The Assembly proceeded to the unfinished business, viz., the consideration of the report of the special Committee on the communication from a member of the Committee of Conference with the American Home Missionary Society. It was moved to amend the report by making the Committee of Conference with the Home Missionary Society a permanent Committee.

Pending this discussion, the Assembly adjourned, to meet to-morrow, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, June 1st, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly recommended the observance of the first Monday of January as a day of fasting and prayer for the Conversion of the World; also the last Thursday of February as a day of prayer for Colleges.

The unfinished business was taken up, viz., the consideration of the motion to amend the report of the Committee on the subject of Conference with the American Home Missionary Society, by making the Committee of Conference permanent.

The speakers were limited during the remaining sessions, except on judicial cases, to ten minutes.

The amendment was adopted.

The consideration of the report of the Judicial Committee, in the [602] case of the Rev. George Sheldon, was made the order of the day for this afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

Adjourned, to meet this afternoon at 2½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, June 1st, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The report of the Standing Committee on Church Extension was adopted, and is as follows:

The Standing Committee on Church Extension, having examined the report of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension, respectfully report,

That we observe with pleasure, that, notwithstanding the financial embarrassments of the year, the receipts of the Committee, including receipts for the same purpose by the Synod of Illinois and by the Presbytery of Monroe, have been nearly 100 per cent. in advance of the receipts of the previous year; but we observe with pain, that the Committee have not only been obliged to refuse or postpone important applications for aid, but that they are indebted to missionaries for sums promised them, and which, in the language of the Permanent Committee, these missionaries, "really and distressingly need." We cannot but approve the extraordinary efforts used by the Permanent Committee to meet these necessities, and only lament that they were not entirely successful.

Two memorials have been referred to us, one from an individual of long experience in the West, urging upon the General Assembly the management of our own Home Missionary work through our own ecclesiastical organizations, so admirably adapted to the purpose, and having such work among their legitimate and necessary functions; another from the Synod of Wisconsin, asking the General Assembly "to inquire into the Constitution of the American Home Missionary Society," and "also, whether the time has not come to adopt the rotating and more truly representative principle in the appointment of the secretaries and general agents of the American Home Missionary Society."

But, manifestly, these last matters, how deeply soever they may affect the interests of our churches, are matters in which the General Assembly has no power of interference. Important as are the interests at stake, our connection with all voluntary societies is not in General Assembly, but only that of individual churches and ministers acting voluntarily, so far and so long as they please, and on their own individual responsibility, with others of other denominations, who also act individually, and without responsibility to us. The General Assembly has no power to regulate the organization or action of such [603] voluntary societies, nor can it attempt such interference with any propriety, or hope of advantage.

With regard to the matter of the first memorial, the Committee would represent, that our Constitution (Chap. XVIII.) expressly recognizes the duty of the General Assembly to see, that necessary aid is furnished to its feeble churches, and to send missionaries to the destitute. These rights and duties are fully acknowledged. The General Assembly can never divest itself of these, nor wholly or finally devolve them upon organizations beyond its control, and, to the General Assembly, wholly irresponsible. It may,

however, for the time being, judge for itself through what instrumentalities it can best accomplish the work. While we love our own Church, it has ever been our glory to love also all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity, and to seek to co-operate with those who have a common faith with us, in all methods in which it seems possible best to subserve the interests of our common Lord. We have loved to co-operate with others, of a common faith though of different ecclesiastical preferences, in extending together, as far as possible, the Church of our Lord and Saviour among the new settlements; when, if each denomination had acted separately, people of a common faith must have been arrayed, in every village and hamlet, into different churches, each too feeble to sustain the institutions of the Gospel, and tempted by their very necessities to be mutually antagonistic and destructive. For these reasons, the General Assembly has loved, and still loves, to co-operate, so far as it can in consistency with duty to our own churches, with others in the great work of extending the institutions of the Gospel over the widely-spreading new settlements of our vast country.

It was, however, found by experience, that an important part of our duty could not be reached by an agency in common with others. Rules, necessary to that common agency, forbade relief in many cases where it was clearly our duty to furnish it; and, with no violation of the rights of others, with no unfaithfulness to any principle or engagement implied in our co-operation with others, but with the desire and purpose still to co-operate, so far and so long as that shall appear best for the cause of our Lord and Saviour, and consistent with our duty to our churches, the General Assembly organized the Church Extension Committee.

That Committee, in their report for the present year, say, that, "The longer they are engaged in the work, the deeper is their impression of its importance." In such impression this Standing Committee fully shares. Many facts have come to our knowledge, while we have been investigating the matter, which show, more and more clearly, the necessity of such a Permanent Committee on Church Extension, and the necessity that its efficiency should be greatly increased.

We therefore recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution, viz.,

Resolved, That, having good assurance that the past action of the Permanent Committee on Church Extension has been in accordance with the views expressed above, and believing that they will continue, as they have already done, to furnish aid in worthy cases which cannot [604] be reached by any agency in which we act in common with others, we commend their cause to the increased liberality of our churches, and earnestly desire that the efficiency of the action of the Committee may be greatly augmented.

The Committee also report, that the term of office of the following members of the Permanent Committee of Church Extension now expires, viz., Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., Rev. John C. Smith, D. D., Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, Mr. Matthew W. Baldwin, and Mr. Edward A. Lambert.

The Committee recommend that the name of Rev. William Adams, D. D., be substituted for that of Rev. G. L. Prentiss, D. D., who is to be absent from the country, and that the other persons be re-elected.

The unfinished business, viz., the consideration of the report of the Committee of Conference with the American Home Missionary Society, was resumed. The report was adopted, and is as follows:

The special Committee on the documents relating to the Committee of Conference with the American Home Missionary Society recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That the Committee of Conference with the American Home Missionary Society be continued, and consist of the following members, Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D. D., Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., Rev. William C. Wisner, D. D., Rev. D. Howe Allen, D. D., Rev. Harvey Curtis, D. D., Rev. A. Augustus Wood, D. D., (in the place of Rev. George L. Prentiss, D. D., resigned,) Rev. Thompson Bird, Mr. Cyrus P. Smith, and Mr. Norman White, and that four of their number constitute a quorum.

2. That this Committee report to the next General Assembly upon our general relations with the American Home Missionary Society; upon its appointment of agents and missionaries; upon the number of our churches and ministers aided by it; upon the amount contributed by our churches to its funds; and upon any other points of interest connected with our Home Missionary work; that we may come to a more full comprehension of our duties, and be aroused to greater zeal and liberality.

3. That this Committee, as far as is practicable, procure from our Presbyteries information as to home evangelization; and that our Presbyteries give diligent heed to this work, as far as is practicable, raising money to be expended within their own bounds, and seeing to it that annual collections for Home Missions be made in all their churches.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported, that they have given leave to the following persons: Rev. Messrs. J. W. Dulles, Thos. H. Robinson, Wm. N. Sayre, Stephen H. Williams, Cyrenius H. Ransom, and J. G. Kanouse; Elders, H. D. Savage, Asa D. Moore, F. M. Fry, M. D., John Hartshorn, B. Hammil, Hiram Foster, E. P. Wilcox, and J. Porter. [605]

The Mileage Committee made their report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Mileage respectfully report as follows:

Thirty-five (35) Presbyteries have contributed the full amount assessed to them under the rule of the last Assembly, viz.:

St. Lawrence,	Philadelphia, 4th,	Knox,
Pennsylvania,	Erie,	Galena,
Onondaga,	Marshall,	Chicago,
Cayuga,	Portage,	Belvidere,
Buffalo,	Maumee,	Minnesota,
Hudson,	Scioto,	Fox River,
Long Island,	Madison,	Columbus,
New York, 3d,	Indianapolis,	Des Moines,
New York, 4th,	Fort Wayne,	Iowa City,
Brooklyn,	Schuyler,	Keokuk,
Montrose,	Wabash,	Dubuque,
Philadelphia, 3d,	Ottawa,	Cedar Valley.

Thirty-two (32) Presbyteries have contributed in part, viz.:

Troy,	Genesee,	Coldwater,
Albany,	Niagara,	Grand River,
Catskill,	North River,	Trumbull,
Watertown,	Newark,	Cincinnati,
Utica,	Rockaway,	Dayton,
Chemung,	Wilmington,	Hamilton,
Ithaca,	Detroit,	Green Castle,
Cortland,	Monroe,	St. Joseph,
Tioga,	Washtenaw,	Illinois,
Otsego,	Alton,	Lyons.
Milwaukee,	Harrisburgh,	

The Synods of Alta California, Missouri, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, West Tennessee, and Mississippi, have made no contribution.

The whole amount paid in is $2809.35.

The thirty-five (35) Presbyteries, that contributed to the Assembly the full amount assessed to them, have presented accounts for their traveling expenses, amounting in the aggregate to $2059.35, all of which have been paid.

The balance, amounting to seven hundred and fifty dollars, ($750,) has been paid over to the Stated Clerk for the Contingent Fund of the Assembly.

They further recommend, that the sum of five cents, for each communicant, be raised by the Presbyteries, to defray the necessary traveling expenses of Commissioners, and the contingent expenses of the next Assembly.

The order of the day was taken up, viz., the consideration of the report of the Judicial Committee on the appeal of the Rev. George Sheldon. [606]

The Moderator reminded the Assembly, that they were about to engage in judicial business, and of the necessity of recognizing their high responsibilities as a court of Jesus Christ. After which, the documents in the case were read, and the parties heard in part.

Adjourned to meet at 7½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday, June 1st, 7½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Resolved, That the thanks of the General Assembly be presented to the numerous railroad companies who have forwarded and returned the members of the Assembly, at a reduced price, on their way to and from this city.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to the citizens of Chicago, for the generous hospitality extended to the Commissioners and others in attendance, which has rendered their stay in "the Garden City" so peculiarly pleasant; with the assurance of our fervent prayer, that the blessing of the God of peace may rest upon them.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be returned to the Committee of Arrangements, for their promptness and activity in providing for our comfort.

Also, to the Trustees of the Second Presbyterian church, for the accommodations extended to the Assembly during its present sessions.

Also, to the editors of the daily papers of the city, for their full and minute reports of the proceedings of the Assembly.

Resolved, further, That the thanks of the Assembly be presented to the Rev. M. L. P. Thompson, D. D., for the very dignified and impartial manner in which he has presided during the deliberations of this body; and for the courteous and Christian bearing, which, in his official capacity, he has constantly maintained during the sessions of the Assembly.

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Assembly, with the usual Appendix, and the reports of the Treasurers of the Permanent Committees, be printed under the direction of the Stated Clerk.

The janitor's bill, the bills for printing and stationery, the traveling expenses of the Delegates to Maine, New Hampshire, Wisconsin, and the Cumberland General Assembly, with the salaries and traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks, were ordered to be paid.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of the afternoon, viz., the hearing of the appeal of Mr. Sheldon.

Pending which, the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer. [607]

Wednesday, June 2d, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

After the devotional exercises, the Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

In the absence of the Temporary Clerk, Rev. G. R. H. Shumway was chosen Clerk *pro tem.*

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business, viz., the consideration of the appeal of the Rev. George Sheldon.

The original parties having been fully heard, the Roll was called, and opportunity was given to the members of the Assembly to express their opinions on the case.

After which, the final vote was taken, and the appeal was not sustained, nineteen voting in the affirmative, and fifty-four in the negative.

Hon. Arnold Naudain, M. D., and Thos. Farnham, were excused from voting.

Rev. H. A. Rowland, D. D., in behalf of himself and others, gave notice of a protest against the above action.

Adjourned to meet at 2½ o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday, June 2d, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be specially tendered to the Chicago and Milwaukee Railroad Company, for their courtesy in the pleasant excursion afforded us to Lake Forest on Saturday, the 22d ult.

Resolved, further, That this Assembly highly appreciate the very delicate and generous invitation of the Rock Island Railroad Company, through Henry Farnum, Esq., to visit the Mississippi River, over their road, at our convenience; and that we return our thanks for their kindness.

The following protest was ordered to be entered upon the Minutes:

We, the undersigned members of the General Assembly, feel constrained to protest against the decision of the General Assembly, in not sustaining the appeal of Mr. George Sheldon, for the following reasons, viz.:

1. It is shown by the records in the case, that Mr. Sheldon failed to appear on the second citation, and that the Presbytery, instead of immediately suspending him for contumacy according to the rule of our Discipline, Chapter V., section 11, merely passed a vote of censure, and proceeded, not only to take testimony, but to issue the whole case upon its merits in the absence of the accused. In allowing a judicatory to take testimony in the absence of the accused, our Book of Discipline does not authorize them to try and issue a case, but only to take [608] the testimony in order to preserve it on record, in case the man should repent of his contumacy on a third citation, and submit himself to trial.

The course of the Presbytery should have been, to suspend Mr. Sheldon for contumacy on the second citation, and then, when he appeared on a third citation, the Presbytery could have removed the sentence of suspension for contumacy, and given him a fair trial.

But, instead of this course, the Presbytery tried the case during Mr. Sheldon's absence, and found him guilty of the charge on merely *ex parte* testimony. And then, when Mr. Sheldon appeared, prepared with testimony in his defense, it was not admitted, nor put on record. He was not, therefore, tried according to our Form of Government; and any evidence adduced by him, touching his guilt or innocence, was entirely excluded from the record.

All of which is contrary to the principles of our Form of Government, and

to the past decisions of the General Assembly, especially in the case of the Rev. Dr. Craighead, of Kentucky, A. D. 1806.

2. In the evidence on record before the Presbytery, when parts of several letters of Mr. Sheldon were given and allowed in evidence, the Presbytery should have required the whole documents in the case; and also when part of the record of the court was admitted, the testimony, on the ground of which the divorce was sought to be obtained, was ruled out. And the Presbytery proceeded upon these partial extracts to form a decision, when the whole document, if allowed in court, or produced there, might have given an entirely different construction to the parts read.

All of which is contrary to the established legal principle, that the best evidence to be had should be demanded in every case; and that, when parts of a document touching any subject are introduced in evidence, the whole document must be admitted.

3. So many and great were the irregularities in this assumed trial, as to enable the General Assembly to form no proper judgment of the real merits of the case. And, on account of these irregularities, the case should have been remanded for a new trial.

On these grounds we protest against the action of the General Assembly, virtually confirming the act of deposition pronounced against Mr. Sheldon, as being contrary to the former decisions of the General Assembly, contrary to the established practice of our judicatory, contrary to the personal rights of Mr. Sheldon, and derogatory to the honor of Jesus Christ as represented by his Church in the highest judicatory. And, because we are unwilling to be thought consenting to such action, we here respectfully enter our solemn protest, and pray that it may be admitted upon the Minutes of the Assembly.

Henry A. Rowland,	Robert W. Landis,
B. B. Beckwith,	Geo. E. Delavan,
Samuel M. Blatchford,	B. Graves,
G. W. Heacock,	T. Ralston Smith,
Geo. C. Lucas,	E. Covert,
Geo. Betts,	Timothy Stillman,
Daniel Clark,	Chester S. Armstrong. [609]

Rev. H. B. Smith, D. D., Rev. G. S. Boardman, and Elder Lyman Wilder, were appointed a *Committee to answer the* above *protest.*

A communication was received from the Rev. Samuel H. Cox, D. D., in behalf of the Ingham University, over which he presides, commending that institution to the favorable regard of this body; whereupon, it was

Resolved, That this General Assembly hear with pleasure of the present prosperous condition and high promise of the aforesaid University, and cordially commend it to the patronage of our churches.

The Committee appointed to answer the protest of Rev. H. A. Rowland, D. D., and others, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

In answer to the protest against the decision of the Assembly in the case of George Sheldon, the Assembly make the following statement:

1. The action of the Presbytery in the case was irregular, only technically, and not in such a sense as to vitiate the substantial justice of the result. The case had been on trial during a period of some three years, and ample opportunity had been given in this period for the accused to defend himself.

2. Although it is asserted, that only extracts from Mr. Sheldon's letters were admitted in evidence, yet it appears that one letter, and the most important one, is given in full; that the extracts from the other letters are undisputed, and that these fairly and clearly present the truth in the case.

3. As to the alleged new evidence, it appears that it was before the Judicial Committee of the Presbytery, and read in full before the Synod, and was unanimously decided by these judicatories to be no ground for re-opening the case; and it also appears, that this testimony is wholly irreconcilable with statements made by Mr. Sheldon in the letters above referred to.

4. Inasmuch as the Assembly, after a full hearing of the case, by a vote of more than two-thirds, decided that there have been no material deviations from the rules of the Book of Discipline for conducting judicial cases, it is deemed unnecessary, at this late hour of their sessions, to reply further to the allegations of the protestants.

The Minutes of the session were read and approved.

The calling of the Roll was dispensed with.

The business of the Assembly having been finished, and the vote having been taken for the dissolving of the Assembly, the Moderator, with prayer and the apostolic benediction, declared the Assembly dissolved; and required another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in the Central Presbyterian church, in the city of Wilmington, Delaware, on the third Thursday of May, 1859, at 11 o'clock A. M.

HENRY DARLING, *Permanent Clerk.*

Chicago, June 2d, 1858.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE

Of the State of Religion within the Bounds of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, May, 1858.

The closing sentiment in the Narrative of the last year, was the desire, expressed by several of our Presbyteries, for the revival of God's work. The cheering intelligence which now reaches us from every part of the land, is the realization of this desire. The almost prophetic aspiration of the past, "We trust, that the period is not distant, when this state of actual, general, glorious revival shall be ours," is the fact of the present. We trace a most manifest connection between the intense longing breathed throughout the whole Church a year ago, and the marvelous work of grace that we are now enjoying. It has truthfully been said that, "Next to a state of actual revival is the sense of its need, and the struggle to attain to it, at any sacrifice of treasure, toil, or time."

GREAT AWAKENING.

The meeting of the present Assembly occurs in the midst of what has been very properly styled "The great awakening." In this remarkable work of grace, our own Church has shared, and is sharing, largely; so that, with gratitude and rejoicing, we mention it as the chief feature of the Narrative. The members of the Assembly have come from scenes of revival, to mingle in a revival progressing in the place of meeting. This wave of blessing is rolling over the land. Already it has reached every Presbytery within our bounds; and there is scarcely a church that has not felt, in some degree, its cheering influence. One of our largest Presbyteries says: "The reports which reach us from our churches are such, that our emotions find most appropriate utterance in the words of the Psalmist: 'When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing. Then said they

among the heathen, the Lord hath done great things for them, the Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad.' There is not, within our bounds, a single church in which the tokens of the divine presence have not been distinctly seen; although in several there has been no general awakening and turning to God. In many, the work has been one of unwonted power."

ORIGIN OF THE WORK.

This Pentecostal season manifested itself at an early period of the present year, in a remarkable degree, in the city of New York. This great heart of the country now became the fountain of religious life, sending out its currents to the extremities. Its influence spread most rapidly. Individuals from the East and the West, from the North and the South, came to this business centre, and, like the men of old who visited Jerusalem, they were filled with the Holy Ghost, and returned home to kindle the sacred flame at their own altars, and in the places where they dwelt, until the holy fire was lighted in almost every city and village of the land, where it is still burning more or less brightly.

We do not attribute this revival to any one human instrumentality. It is most manifestly the work of God. "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes." One of the most carefully prepared Presbyterial Narratives says: "No cause of sufficient power for the production of such results was visible. No Edwards of resistless force in argument; no Whitefield of commanding eloquence; no Summerfield or McCheyne of impassioned feeling, was raised up to be the herald of the Lord. The more we study this work, the more deeply is the truth impressed upon our minds, This is the work of God. God works in secret and mysteriously, when he awakes from its deathlike slumbers the kingdom of nature, and renews the face of the earth; and when he quickens into holy life those who were dead in trespasses and sins.

"In the financial revulsion which preceded this awakening, this truth is equally illustrated. Men were forced to the acknowledgment, This is the hand of God. The perplexities, the reverses, and the losses, which attended it, demonstrating so clearly the instability and the insufficiency of earthly good, exerted, we doubt not, a most salutary influence on thousands, preparing the way for the operations of the Divine Spirit. They were the wind, the earthquake, and the fire, after which came the still small voice."

CHARACTERISTICS.

We find, in the Narratives, a marked uniformity, as to the main features of this revival. A Presbytery in the East says: "The general characteristics of this great work of grace have been singularly uniform, in nearly all our churches. There has been less than usual of overpowering excitement, both in the experience of Christians and in the exercises of the awakened; but much clear conviction of sin and ruin, calm submission to the will of God, and simple faith in the atoning blood of Jesus Christ."

A Presbytery in the West gives the following as characteristic features of the work:

"1. There is a larger proportion of males and adults among the converts, than in former revivals.

"2. There appears to be a universal readiness among the new members, to take part in the exercises of the prayer and conference meetings.

"3. The fact that so many conversions seem to be in answer to special prayer, is another noticeable characteristic.

"4. Another feature of the work among us, is the increased amount of *lay labor* which has been called forth. A new lesson of love and obedience has been learned by many. They now feel that they have not been called into the Church merely to enjoy themselves, but to serve Christ. They do not so much regard the Church as a ship in which they are to be carried safely and pleasantly to heaven, as a vineyard in which they are to labor.

"Some members of long standing in the Church have recently ceased to consider themselves as passengers, and have become workers; and the new converts are generally asking, 'Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?' rather than saying, 'I pray thee have me excused.'"

INSTRUMENTALITIES.

One of the instrumentalities, employed with much success, has been systematic visitation. This prepared the way for this wonderful display of divine power, and it has proved to be also a most efficient agent in carrying it forward. One of the Presbyteries says: "In the important work of districting the city, and of systematic visitation, for the ingathering of attendants to the sanctuaries and Sabbath-schools, our churches have engaged in connection with others with good success." Another says: "That a Young Men's Christian Association has explored the district in which the church to which it is attached is located, with reference to its thorough evangelization, visiting 20,000 persons, and reducing the results of their investigations to tabular forms; thus making them of permanent value."

The Presbyteries bear united testimony to the happy influence exerted by union prayer meetings, in quickening believers, in awakening sinners, and in leading them to Christ. "The prayer meeting," says one, "always so important, has occupied an extraordinary place in the instrumentalities employed. The prominence given to the prayer meeting has indeed, with us, as throughout the country, been one of the unusual features of this work of grace; and, in connection with it, there has been a development of the piety and ability of the members of the Church, which will, no doubt, be one of the most blessed and permanent influences of the revival. So abundant and so remarkable have been the answers to prayer, that skepticism itself has been silenced, if not convicted; while faith has learned how to say to the mountain, 'Be thou removed,' and to find 'nothing impossible.'"

"God has honored the ordinary means of grace. There has been no demand for new agencies, such as evangelists and revival preachers, technically so styled; and but little demand for pulpit ministrations beyond the strength of the pastors. The work in our churches has thus been directly under pastoral supervision. To no one class of truths has special prominence been given in preaching. The claims of the law of God, with its solemn sanctions; the pollution, the guilt, and the ruin of man; the atoning work of Christ; the sanctifying work of the Spirit; the fullness and the freeness of the Gospel offer, have each been exhibited in turn, with great simplicity and earnestness; and, in view of the results of this preaching, we can say with the apostle, 'I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.'"

PROGRESS.

The Narratives indicate, with scarcely an exception, that this blessed work is still going on. "In its progress, we have been forcibly reminded of the words of our Lord: 'The kingdom of God cometh not with observation; neither shall they say, Lo here! or lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of

God is within you.' In impressive grandeur, and in the richness of its blessings, it burst upon us, as in a moment. The Lord whom we sought came suddenly to his temple, revealing himself as 'mighty to save.' The awakening spread so rapidly from point to point, that it seemed to be in these various centres almost simultaneous." A Presbytery at the East says: "The work has not ceased; its power is now displayed less in conversion, more in edification." In another Presbytery, "This work is represented as still going on; in some cases it is deepening in interest." Another, situated at the southern limits of our Church, says: "The Presbytery has shared and is sharing richly in the work of the Holy Spirit." In one of the most carefully prepared Narratives from the West, we have the following language: "The work of grace is not reported in any instance to have abated; new cases of interest are daily occurring." A Presbytery, occupying a central position, says: "In some of our churches the work is manifestly progressing; and in others, while there may be less to arrest the eye, we rejoice to know that there is a strong under-current of religious feeling and action, from which we may look for important results hereafter."

RESULTS.

The time has not yet arrived for giving the statistical results of this general outpouring of the Holy Spirit. It is now harvest time; the work of ingathering has been commenced, but not completed. Many sheaves have already been garnered; a larger number yet remain to be gathered in. The Narratives give the results of this glorious work in such statements as the following: "Some churches have been kept from extinction;" "others have doubled their numbers." There is perhaps scarcely a church within the bounds of the Assembly that has not, in some degree, been strengthened.

After a somewhat careful examination of the reports placed in our hands, we think that it may safely be said, that three fourths, if not four fifths, of our churches have been actually revived, and have already added or will soon add to their number of members; and, in many instances, a large increase is indicated. Says one: "In fruits already gathered, there has been an advance of nearly twenty per cent.; and yet it is supposed that, when the already ripened sheaves shall be garnered, there will be an increase of forty per cent. to the membership reported last year." Another Presbytery says: "That, in consequence of the revival, several of its churches have received, or will receive, an addition to their membership, varying from five to fifteen per centum; while upon Shelter Island, probably one half of the entire population may now be numbered among the disciples of Jesus." The result is thus described in another section: "The Presbytery has added during the year, and mostly during the last three months, one fourth to its entire membership. Some of our churches have doubled their numbers, and considerably more than doubled their strength." Another Presbytery reports, "over three hundred added to its churches during the winter, on profession." A Presbytery in a different section of the country says: "Large additions have been made to the churches by profession; and they will yet increase more and more." In the eight churches in the bounds of another Presbytery, an aggregate of over two hundred accessions to the Church of Christ is reported. Another Narrative states that, "This revival has gradually extended throughout the bounds of our Presbytery, until almost none of our churches have been left unblest by its holy influences." "While mere statistics can never be the measure of such divine harvests; yet it ought to be made known, to the praise of God, and to inspire the gratitude of his people, that, during the past year, and almost wholly as the result of the

present awakening, over seven hundred souls have been hopefully added to the number of the Lord's redeemed, and enrolled on the records of the churches of this Presbytery."

INFLUENCES.

It is impossible to measure the influence that this great revival has exerted, is now exerting, and is yet to exert, upon the Church and the world.

1. On the Church.

Its mighty tide-wave is rolling on, widening and deepening in its course, until it shall break upon the shores of eternity.

It is not to be expected, that its outward manifestations will continue; but its power, its internal life, will remain in the Church. The great awakening, that occurred in connection with the labors of Whitefield and his coadjutors, left its impress upon the Church; its influence has come down to us, and we feel its power. The Church was then lifted into a higher position, and clothed with new energy. The influence of the present awakening, we believe, will be still more salutary and permanent upon the Church. Never, in the same space of time, has the Church advanced so much in living energy and abiding power. She has taken another step upward. The moral grandeur of her position, and the majestic force which, under God, she has been enabled to wield, have given her a deeper hold upon the hearts and consciences of all classes, than perhaps she ever had before.

The piety of her members, and of those who have recently joined her ranks, has put on a higher and more active type. Instead of manifesting itself in mere expressions of emotion, it has been energetic in leading sinners to Christ. So that we may confidently hope, that in this "quickening of the Church," in the development of the working and praying power of the laity, in the increased spirit of consecration, and in the awakening and conversion of sinners, the present interest is but the inauguration of a perpetual and grand Revival Era. We receive these mercy-drops as but the herald of the coming shower; and we cry to our people: "Verily, there is a sound of abundance of rain!" We hail this awakening as but the voice of John the Baptist, crying: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord!" The power of the Church has been augmented, to cheer us when we were ready to be discouraged in relation to the moral condition of our country. We shall yet witness the confirmation of our hopes; and, from this land, light, liberty, and salvation shall go out in every direction.

Seamen as well as landsmen have been the subjects of this blessed work. Noon-day prayer-meetings have been held on board of our large ships while crossing the ocean; the song of praise, and the voice of prayer, have gone up from the forecastle, and these weather-beaten sailors have carried the glad tidings to other nations. So that we can almost say, in the language of Cowper,

> "The dwellers in the vales and on the rocks
> Shout to each other; and the mountain-tops
> From distant mountains catch the flying joy,
> Till, nation after nation taught the strain,
> Earth rolls the rapturous Hosanna round."

2. On Ministerial Supply.

The Church of Christ has suffered for years, because the supply of ministers was not equal to the increased, and constantly increasing, demand. God

has now taken this matter into his own hands. This general Baptism of the Holy Ghost, this wonderful turning to God on the part of the young men throughout the country, will multiply the number of candidates for the ministry, and give those who enter it a more entire consecration to the service of their divine Master.

It is reported that a large number of the students at Yale and Amherst Colleges have already been converted; and that at Beloit College seventy are hoping in Christ, thirty-six of whom are studying for the ministry. Other institutions of learning have also shared largely in this work of grace.

3. On a Christian Literature.

The influence of this revival will be seen in its effects upon a Christian literature. It has already called into existence religious papers, periodicals, and volumes, that breathe its spirit, and that will preserve the records of its wonderful power. The secular press has, with scarcely an exception, whether in sympathy with it or not, been compelled to speak of it with respect, and to chronicle its mighty achievements. It will purify, elevate, and give a more decided religious character to the reading of the age.

4. On Christian Doctrine.

It will vitalize Christian doctrine. The forms of orthodoxy will breathe with a new life. Truth will be viewed less in the abstract, more in the concrete. Religion will be regarded not merely as a belief in creeds, but as a life; the Bible, as a book not merely designed to teach systematic theology, but as containing great truths adapted to meet the wants of the soul. The aim of the ministry, more than ever, will be to present the doctrines of grace, in the living logic of a mind inspired with their deep philosophy to meet the world's reason, in the living rectitude of a mind inspired with their goodness, to meet the world's conscience, in the love of a mind inspired with Christ, to meet the wants of the world's soul.

5. On Co-operative Christianity.

It has brought those connected with different religious sects to labor and pray together, not merely as members of any one denomination, but as Christians. Its bearing has been most marked in the influence already felt, and yet to be exerted, on a co-operative Christianity. At times, perhaps, our faith has wavered, in regard to the conversion of the world; but when we see Christians laying aside their minor differences, and combining their influence and energies for the salvation of souls, we are ready to thank God, and take courage. When we see the statement, based upon a careful examination of statistics, that in our own country, within one week, during the present revival, fifty thousand have hopefully been converted to God, we need not be in doubt in regard to the way in which the world is to be converted, or have any fears about the fulfillment of the predictions referring to the future triumphs of the Church. In this wonderful display of Divine power, we see how the latter-day glory of the Church is to be ushered in. The millennium may be even now breaking upon our enraptured vision. "Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God!"

LESSONS.

The instructions, growing out of this remarkable work of grace, are important to the Church and the ministry. This blessing came to encourage her members and her ministers, and to inspire them with new confidence in

the power of Christ. It has been abundantly verified, that "he that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Our faith in the efficacy of the ordinary means of grace has been greatly strengthened. "God has honored his own chosen instrumentalities, the preaching of his ministers, and the prayers of his people." We have been taught anew our dependence upon the over-ruling Providence and the Spirit of God.

The words of Peter, when accounting for the first revival in the Christian Church, are eminently descriptive of the present divine work: "Therefore, being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear."

Another lesson taught is, that a condition of spiritual life in the Church is one also of great external prosperity. It is a law of life to work outward, and build for itself a body, a habitation to dwell in. This vital force sets all the machinery of the Church in motion, for the Spirit of the living God is in the wheels. We should naturally expect, therefore, to find what the Narratives of the different Presbyteries within our bounds actually reveal: that new church edifices have been erected, while others have been enlarged and improved; in some cases, debts have been diminished or paid off; new churches have been organized; and in some instances, new Presbyteries have been formed. Notwithstanding the financial pressure, "the contributions to the various objects which have usually received the patronage of our churches, have fallen but little below those of the previous year," and in some instances they have been enlarged. A lively interest is manifested by the Presbyteries in the plans adopted for extending the borders, and increasing the efficiency, of the Church, that she may meet her weighty responsibilities. The following language of one may be regarded as the sentiment of the whole: "As a Presbytery, we heartily sympathize with the General Assembly in its action relative to Ministerial Education, Church Extension and Publication. We express our deep conviction of the importance of energetic, united efforts in the departments referred to, and our confidence in the wisdom of the plans of action adopted by the Assembly." There has been a great increase in the number of persons attending upon the public worship of the sanctuary, as well as in the number of those who have been willing to engage in giving instruction in the Sabbath-school. New schools have been formed, while those already existing have increased in numbers, and many of the scholars been led to Jesus. Catechetical instruction is receiving the more general attention of pastors and others, and many youth enjoy the benefit of a systematic and thorough training in this important department.

Such mercies, as we are thus permitted to record, may well call forth "thanksgiving and the voice of melody." They offer precious encouragements to prayer and faith, and spiritual labor. We would be animated by the goodness of the Lord to more cheerful self-denial; we would be won to a more complete consecration to the will of our blessed Saviour.

In the name of the Divine Master, we would exhort the churches to seek still greater mercies from Him whom giving doth not impoverish. "There remaineth yet very much land to be possessed." How many children of the covenant are yet unregenerated! How much greater are the multitudes still unreached, than the converts over whom we give thanks! while an illimitable heathen world is still shrouded in its almost unbroken darkness. To the churches we say: "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! they shall prosper that love thee!" Unto God we pray: "Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion; build thou the walls of Jerusalem."

Truth is eternal. The Church lives. Never before has she furnished more conclusive evidence of her power to overcome every obstacle in the way of her universal triumph. But we are reminded of the solemn truth, that her sons die. Those who have finished their earthly course say to us: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom in the grave whither thou goest."

The following ministers have, during the past year, ceased from their labors on the earth, and entered into rest:

Rev. John W. Beecher,	of the Presbytery of	Utica.	
" Henry Dwight,	"	Geneva.	
" George L. Hall,	"	Ithaca.	
" Thaddeus Pomeroy,	"	Onondaga.	
" C. C. Crossfield,	"	Genesee.	
" Chandler Bates,	"	Rochester.	
" Joel Osborn,	"	North River.	
" Hubert P. Herrick,	"	New York, 3d.	
" Joseph Barlow,	"	Montrose.	
" John McKnight,	"	Philadelphia, 3d.	
" William Ramsey, D. D.,	"	"	"
" Anson Rood,	"	"	"
" Ethan Osborne,	"	"	4th.
" Holloway W. Hunt,	"	"	"
" Benjamin F. Templeton,	"	"	"
" Hugh S. McElroy,	"	Detroit.	
" William Burton,	"	Grand River.	
" Reuben Taylor,	"	Cleveland.	
" Joseph Fowler,	"	Knox.	
" Hercules R. Dunham,	"	Galena.	
" Seymour Thompson,	"	Chicago.	
" Thomas Cleland, D. D.,	"	Providence.	

By order of the General Assembly.

M. L. P. THOMPSON, *Moderator.*

EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEDULES.

I. Of the Synods and their Presbyteries.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
I. Synod of Albany	1803	5	84	3	7	70	366	145	8257	124	156	$184 01	$1,571 63	$3,045 64	$791 22	$2,290 57	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
1. Champlain	1814	...	25	...	1	21	78	52	2345	30	59	64 00	490 50	921 13	85 28	386 85	Stephen H. Williams.
2. Troy	1820	...	23	2	2	18	21	21	2291	6	28	32 00	59 50	544 36	60 00	570 50	A. B. Lambert, D. D.
3. Albany	1791	...	14	...	2	12	116	30	1664	46	22	35 01	419 51	511 12	365 69	518 78	Eber M. Rollo.
4. Columbia	1802	...	6	...	2	6	74	20	909	21	12	.....	322 00	432 00	145 00	235 00	William S. Leavitt.
5. Catskill	1851	...	16	1	...	13	77	22	1048	21	35	53 00	280 12	637 03	135 25	579 44	Leonard B. Van Dyck.
II. Synod of Utica	1829	4	65	5	9	72	219	158	7106	60	99	263 35	1,258 19	2,082 42	2,175 10	1,989 77	William E. Knox.
1. St. Lawrence	1818	...	8	...	3	6	4	4	723	1	5	36 15	116 00	140 00	80 00	39 12	Baruch B. Beckwith.
2. Watertown	1822	...	13	...	...	21	115	49	1968	35	35	85 00	337 37	670 75	241 00	778 47	Isaac Brayton.
3. Oswego	1823	...	9	1	...	15	10	33	1415	3	11	23 00	97 24	408 19	52 29	71 50	Thomas A. Weed.
4. Utica	1842	...	35	4	6	30	90	72	3000	21	48	119 20	707 58	863 48	1,801 81	1,100 68	Samuel W. Brace.
III. Synod of Geneva	1812	6	109	4	13	93	354	226	9725	145	151	200 89	2,222 01	1,980 89	1,980 64	2,398 51	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
1. Geneva	1805	...	36	3	6	17	48	60	2406	15	46	18 00	483 83	848 64	638 36	779 98	Benjamin M. Goldsmith.
2. Bath	1817	...	14	...	...	17	51	20	1414	18	24	26 25	331 95	191 69	597 20	343 23	Stephen Vorhis.
3. Chemung	1836	...	22	...	...	20	71	59	1838	24	16	26 40	146 13	72 62	91 50	352 14	Charles C. Carr.
4. Ithaca	1839	...	11	...	3	11	34	15	1414	11	15	45 75	647 02	398 13	475 88	150 84	Lewis Kellogg.
5. Pennsylvania	1845	...	13	...	...	13	45	7	564	12	12	26 00	67 83	48 78	10 00	.....	Samuel J. McCullough.
6. Lyons	1856	...	13	1	4	15	105	65	2089	65	38	58 49	545 25	421 03	167 70	772 32	Franklin S. Howe.
IV. Synod of Onondaga	1855	4	80	16	12	70	305	203	7769	124	174	339 70	3,433 12	3,003 89	2,340 04	2,303 01	Lewis H. Reid.
1. Onondaga	1810	...	23	...	5	24	38	58	2440	14	50	84 70	1,019 77	774 67	747 38	770 29	Royal A. Avery.
2. Cayuga	1810	...	31	15	...	21	74	46	2196	39	59	110 00	1,141 05	847 48	1,213 06	825 55	Henry N. Miller.
3. Cortland	1825	...	13	...	7	16	75	40	1707	25	37	70 00	594 19	586 59	219 23	458 17	Samuel N. Robinson.
4. Tioga	1829	...	13	1	...	9	118	59	1426	46	28	75 00	678 11	795 15	160 37	249 00	Samuel H. Hall.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
V. Synod of Susquehanna...	1853	3	42	...	3	51	100	62	3989	30	59	$88 84	$860 30	$957 06	$217 16	$248 48	David Torrey.
1. Otsego	1820	...	11	...	...	17	6	5	1264	2	12	50 75	52 00	239 13	53 00	208 91	Samuel W. Bush.
2. Chenango	1826	...	15	...	3	18	77	34	1646	25	27	29 09	659 30	595 67	100 55	.....	Willard M. Hoyt.
3. Delaware	1831	...	16	...	...	16	17	23	1079	3	20	9 00	149 00	122 26	63 61	39 57	Isaac D. Cornwell.
VI. Synod of Genesee	1821	6	125	4	3	108	649	446	12,371	250	237	305 08	6,317 26	4,900 01	6,116 45	6,927 38	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
1. Buffalo	1817	...	49	...	...	39	201	190	3851	72	94	165 00	2,348 38	2,232 15	4,228 68	1,298 50	Timothy Stillman, D. D.
2. Ontario	1817	...	16	...	...	14	34	51	1488	14	13	5 50	650 02	769 31	156 70	1,118 42	John Barnard. D. D.
3. Rochester	1819	...	26	1	3	16	68	85	2607	30	57	15 00	1,795 41	891 12	480 64	2,569 64	Jonathan Copeland.
4. Genesee	1819	...	14	3	...	14	111	45	1277	45	16	44 58	942 95	338 68	650 13	329 00	Gabriel S. Corwin.
5. Niagara	1823	...	17	...	...	18	235	75	2538	89	57	75 00	580 50	668 75	600 30	1,616 82	Josiah J. Ward.
6. Angelica	1828	...	3	...	...	7	.....	...	610	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel A. Rawson.
VII. Synod of N. Y. and N. J.	1788	9	226	25	73	155	2262	1067	24,905	610	795	1,265 10	26,505 06	24,281 45	10,850 30	9,415 01	John N. Lewis.
1. Hudson	1797	...	14	...	3	13	82	57	1770	39	48	65 00	131 75	625 63	399 38	597 01	Obadiah M. Johnson.
2. North River	1819	...	15	...	...	17	106	19	1718	36	33	67 50	300 00	344 00	147 00	298 00	Sumner Mandeville.
3. Long Island	1791	...	10	...	...	6	17	17	629	3	20	31 90	93 00	98 00	110 00	64 00	Epher Whitaker.
4. New York, 3d	1831	...	54	13	34	25	571	333	5922	141	236	305 00	16,649 41	13,490 12	5,715 52	3,183 29	Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.
5. New York, 4th	1845	...	30	10	23	12	377	165	2789	90	106	250 00	4,185 00	5,837 80	1,672 27	2,128 24	A. Augustus Wood, D.D.
6. Brooklyn	1838	...	18	...	5	9	176	133	2444	27	32	132 30	213 85	181 36	177 00	.....	William S. Karr.
7. Newark	1824	...	38	...	2	21	610	236	4874	102	173	198 00	3,120 05	2,279 18	1,221 26	2,631 47	Joseph Few Smith, D.D.
8. Rockaway	1839	...	23	1	1	19	250	32	2435	147	69	98 50	667 00	647 50	1,070 00	416 00	Burtis C. Megie.
9. Montrose	1832	...	24	1	5	33	73	75	2324	25	78	116 90	1,145 00	777 86	337 87	97 00	Adam Miller.
VIII. Synod of Penna	1838	4	81	5	29	69	1201	324	11,179	419	533	564 57	19,844 34	4,839 65	4,417 07	24,971 80	William E. Moore.
1. Wilmington	1832	...	13	2	...	17	188	45	1385	75	41	35 00	412 78	421 69	303 66	483 18	John W. Mears.
2. Philadelphia, 3d	1832	...	27	1	9	18	410	114	2806	127	151	245 00	9,306 00	2,185 00	1,865 00	23,342 00	J. Glentworth Butler.
3. Philadelphia, 4th	1845	...	28	1	12	26	527	105	5965	196	292	234 57	8,150 56	988 46	1,485 41	1,081 62	Thomas J. Shepherd.
4. Harrisburgh	1839	...	13	1	8	8	76	60	1023	21	49	50 00	1,975 00	1,244 50	763 00	65 00	Conway P. Wing, D. D.

IX. Synod of W. Penna	1843	3	21	...	2	37	244	83	2850	53	96	123 50	1,036 11	789 43	391 35	396 64	George A. Lyon, D. D.
1. Erie	1801	...	10	...	1	15	102	42	1202	32	38	59 00	419 00	280 82	97 35	331 24	Joseph Vance.
2. Meadville	1842	...	6	...	1	16	72	15	945	13	31	37 00	171 11	77 61	159 00	41 40	Richard Craighead.
3. Pittsburgh	1839	...	5	...	...	6	70	26	703	8	27	27 50	446 00	431 00	135 00	24 00	Samuel M. Sparks.
X. Synod of Michigan	1834	9	81	1	12	101	574	439	7745	164	268	248 08	2,759 93	3,358 37	895 25	1,649 37	William S. Huggins.
1. Detroit	1826	...	15	...	...	18	146	55	1430	12	50	46 85	606 28	1,140 73	269 37	207 69	Eurotas P. Hastings.
2. Monroe	1833	...	10	...	...	13	54	46	1266	25	55	49 00	442 50	626 55	94 00	621 11	Addison K. Strong.
3. Marshall	1838	...	7	...	4	14	70	48	1078	20	26	33 00	407 74	216 29	160 29	.....	Chester S. Armstrong.
4. Washtenaw	1838	...	13	1	8	11	62	71	1133	25	39	30 00	280 03	318 39	144 84	181 95	Charles K. Clark.
5. Kalamazoo	1838	...	10	...	...	12	85	62	1084	29	32	41 23	689 83	638 36	213 58	496 73	Milton Bradley.
6. Cold Water	1856	...	8	...	...	11	63	57	788	18	25	27 00	135 89	145 33	13 17	.....	Reuben S. Goodman.
7. Saginaw	1856	...	9	...	...	11	46	60	626	11	34	21 00	197 66	272 72	.....	141 89	Henry N. Northrop.
8. Grand River Valley	1857	...	5	...	...	6	46	21	279	24	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Courtney Smith.
9. Lake Superior	1857	...	4	...	...	5	2	19	61	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	William A. McCorkle.
XI. Synod of W. Reserve	1825	7	108	3	22	89	323	211	6113	113	202	236 10	2,715 51	3,529 94	1,878 65	2,163 89	Xenophon Betts.
1. Grand River	1814	...	10	...	...	6	26	34	553	10	15	17 50	85 62	129 97	14 00	.....	Dexter Witter.
2. Portage	1818	...	21	2	15	10	5	9	652	...	12	32 60	604 09	523 79	145 28	692 91	Levi B. Wilson.
3. Huron	1823	...	16	...	1	17	33	36	1197	14	40	50 92	311 99	363 65	59 38	364 51	Alfred Newton.
4. Trumbull	1827	...	12	...	5	14	32	22	1147	16	40	26 95	247 61	296 12	26 77	135 93	Xenophon Betts.
5. Cleveland	1830	...	24	1	...	15	136	54	1343	44	32	61 83	1,120 39	1,088 38	1,407 00	622 34	James Shaw.
6. Elyria	1842	...	16	...	1	14	2	9	621	...	6	.....	53 48	847 37	167 17	75 50	Alfred H. Betts.
7. Maumee	1842	...	9	...	...	13	89	47	600	29	57	46 30	292 33	280 66	59 05	272 70	Perry C. Baldwin.
XII. Synod of Ohio	1814	4	53	4	6	74	381	140	4656	105	184	125 50	1,464 69	1,404 96	1,226 37	955 30	Addison Kingsbury, D.D.
1. Athens	1822	...	13	1	...	19	66	15	708	19	52	31 00	164 50	63 40	258 02	104 00	James S. Walton.
2. Pataskala	1809	...	17	...	...	24	67	49	1796	18	46	26 00	703 42	772 68	354 62	147 93	Timothy W. Howe.
3. Franklin	1835	...	16	1	5	20	192	43	1377	53	47	28 50	184 02	130 60	82 29	73 67	Henry Shedd.
4. Scioto	1845	...	7	2	1	11	56	33	775	15	39	40 00	412 75	438 28	531 44	629 70	Joseph Chester.
XIII. Synod of Cincinnati	1829	3	41	12	1	37	229	74	2691	54	82	113 60	7,558 61	2,951 32	2,381 25	873 00	James J. Blaisdell.
1. Cincinnati	1828	...	23	11	...	16	54	37	1315	9	49	81 00	7,052 00	2,511 00	2,038 00	873 00	D. Howe Allen, D. D.
2. Dayton	1838	...	9	1	1	11	138	27	800	35	22	6 60	315 00	292 00	199 00	.....	E. Roger Johnson.
3. Hamilton	1846	...	9	...	...	10	37	10	576	10	11	26 00	191 61	148 32	144 25	.....	Benjamin Graves.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
XIV. Synod of Indiana.....	1826	4	43	1	12	62	393	212	3459	128	146	$155 70	$1,629 22	$1,177 05	$1,106 56	$456 13	John M. Bishop.
1. Salem.....	1823	...	8	...	3	17	103	54	1061	46	51	43 15	755 06	459 88	364 12	135 05	John M. Bishop.
2. Madison.....	1825	...	15	...	9	16	73	59	940	19	28	47 00	461 41	190 04	272 00	218 66	W. Wallace Atterbury.
3. Indianapolis.....	1830	...	12	...	...	16	111	68	845	27	24	42 25	270 75	335 13	453 44	102 42	George M. Maxwell.
4. Green Castle.....	1850	...	8	1	...	13	106	31	613	36	43	23 30	142 00	192 00	17 00	.....	Thomas S. Milligan.
XV. Synod of Wabash.....	1851	4	34	3	3	58	266	106	2709	94	95	60 60	579 34	293 00	185 52	99 00	Francis S. McCabe.
1. Crawfordsville.....	1825	...	11	...	...	11	49	23	481	17	26	14 00	140 00	73 00	97 00	29 50	Alexander Lemon.
2. St. Joseph.....	1833	...	7	3	1	18	81	41	885	25	29	15 50	205 89	87 00	52 00	.....	Norman Kellogg.
3. Logansport.....	1835	...	9	...	2	17	72	25	946	32	33	11 00	105 45	72 00	21 52	59 50	Francis S. McCabe.
4. Fort Wayne.....	1845	...	6	...	...	12	64	17	397	20	7	20 10	128 00	61 00	15 00	10 00	John Fairchild.
XVI. Synod of Illinois.....	1831	4	63	1	8	81	310	237	4010	87	110	162 93	1,721 46	1,624 14	15,809 30	1,207 05	Henry C. Abernethy.
1. Illinois.....	1828	...	18	...	1	14	44	10	987	11	5	35 58	437 50	852 75	12,650 00	20 00	Cyrus L. Watson.
2. Schuyler.....	1833	...	17	1	3	20	83	91	1042	28	43	49 40	416 00	281 00	2,792 00	454 00	George I. King.
3. Wabash.....	1833	...	7	...	...	7	46	17	250	12	15	14 05	70 00	44 50	.....	.....	Enoch Kingsbury.
4. Alton.....	1836	...	21	...	4	40	137	119	1731	36	47	63 90	797 96	445 89	367 30	733 05	Augustus T. Norton.
XVII. Synod of Peoria.....	1843	8	96	3	22	78	490	638	4289	148	186	162 70	5,612 81	3,865 02	1,470 13	1,792 38	Ira M. Weed.
1. Ottawa.....	1834	...	18	...	...	11	34	22	307	15	16	13 25	120 00	98 00	.....	112 00	Nahum Gould.
2. Knox.....	1836	...	11	...	...	4	24	74	361	9	14	18 05	46 00	20 00	5 00	80 00	John W. Bailey.
3. Galena*.....	1842	...	10	...	3	15	...	...	547	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John N. Powell.
4. Chicago.....	1847	...	22	3	7	16	173	233	1444	41	58	61 00	4,824 47	3,377 86	1,196 54	1,279 15	Lewis H. Loss.
5. Belvidere.....	1847	...	12	...	10	7	123	109	738	34	46	31 00	198 09	227 16	260 59	267 23	Morrison Huggins.
6. Minnesota.....	1850	...	8	...	...	9	41	60	311	15	22	15 00	35 00	32 00	.....	.....	Charles S. Le Duc.
7. Bloomington.....	1857	...	8	...	2	13	93	87	488	33	24	14 40	344 25	110 00	.....	54 00	Alfred Eddy.
8. Blue Earth.....	1857	...	7	...	...	3	2	53	93	1	6	10 00	45 00	.....	8 00	.....	Edmund D. Holt.

* The asterisk indicates that the report is that of a previous year.

XVIII. Synod of Wisconsin.	1857	3	32	1	1	25	150	236	1131	32	82	46 49	849 18	95 54	348 50	48 73	William A. Niles.
1. Milwaukee	1851	...	15	...	...	7	59	104	549	11	41	21 92	777 11	59 49	325 00	30 00	S. Granby Spees.
2. Fox River	1851	...	8	...	...	7	7	64	242	...	10	9 75	23 00	20 00	.....	.....	John B. Preston.
3. Columbus	1856	...	9	1	1	11	84	68	340	21	31	14 82	49 07	16 05	23 50	18 73	Cyrus E. Rosenkrans.
XIX. Synod of Iowa	1853	5	41	...	10	62	309	281	1974	75	105	104 85	500 45	356 92	1,071 01	406 50	Peter Van Nest.
1. Des Moines	1845	...	5	...	...	8	18	7	177	7	15	25 15	10 00	30 00	..... .	17 00	Thompson Bird.
2. Iowa City	1852	...	12	...	2	19	94	122	573	35	29	28 65	114 60	56 15	158 51	129 00	Samuel Storrs Howe.
3. Keokuk	1852	...	12	...	8	22	85	68	808	14	39	30 05	175 85	88 77	849 50	260 50	Gamaliel C. Beaman.
4. Dubuque	1855	...	5	...	...	3	43	48	168	10	12	8 50	200 00	182 00	63 00	.....	Samuel Newbury.
5. Cedar Valley	1857	...	7	...	...	10	69	36	248	9	10	12 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	Williston Jones.
XX. S. of Alta California.	1857	3	14	...	...	10	3	25	345	...	26	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Edward B. Walsworth.
1. San Francisco	1849	...	6	...	...	2	2	10	90	...	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel H. Willey.
2. Sierra Nevada *	1857	...	4	...	...	4	...	...	133								
3. San José	1857	...	4	...	...	4	1	15	122	...	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Eli Corwin.
XXI. Synod of Missouri	1832	4	40	2	4	57	...	...	2290	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John Leighton.
1. Saint Louis *	1831	...	12	...	1	9	...	...	611	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Edmund Wright.
2. Northern Missouri *	1845	...	6	...	...	9	...	...	592	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John Leighton.
3. Lexington *	1845	...	11	2	...	21	...	...	569	...	...	.....	.....	.. ..	.....	.....	Samuel J. M. Beebe.
4. Osage *	1845	...	11	...	3	18	...	...	518	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	George W. Harlan.
XXII. Synod of Virginia	1788	4	37	7	7	49	...	...	4173	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Thomas D. Bell.
1. Winchester *	1794	...	7	4	5	18	...	...	1085	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Henry Mathews.
2. Dist. of Columbia *	1831	...	11	2	...	13	...	...	1496	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	William McLain.
3. Hanover *	1838	...	10	1	2	8	...	...	773	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Isaac W. K. Handy.
4. Piedmont *	1857	...	9	...	...	10	...	...	819	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Bryce A. Martin.
XXIII. Synod of Kentucky.	1802	3	13	...	...	21	...	...	1028	...	...	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	Archer C. Dickerson.
1. Harmony *	1842	...	5	...	...	9	...	...	352	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Fincelius R. Gray.
2. Providence *	1842	...	3	...	...	6	...	...	499	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Thomas H. Cleland.
3. Green River *	1842	...	5	...	...	6	...	...	177	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Archer C. Dickerson.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.	STATED CLERKS.
XXIV. Synod of Tennessee..	1817	4	44	...	14	84	...	...	5286	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Joseph H. Martin.
1. Union *	1797	...	18	...	7	31	...	...	1992	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Gideon S. White.
2. Holston *	1826	...	10	...	5	18	...	...	1833								
3. Kingston *	1838	...	7	...	2	21	...	...	783	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	William B. Brown.
4. New River *	1838	...	9	...	...	14	...	...	678	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	George Painter.
XXV. Synod of W. Tenn	1826	3	19	...	2	38	...	...	2209	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	William Eagleton, D. D.
1. West Tennessee *	1810	...	5	...	1	7	...	...	568	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Frederick A. Thompson.
2. Shiloh *	1816	...	4	...	...	17	...	...	916	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Amzi Bradshaw.
3. Richland *	1824	...	10	...	1	14	...	...	725	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	G. E. Eagleton.
XXVI. Synod of Mississippi.	1846	4	20	2	2	36	...	...	1151	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Charles M. Atkinson.
1. Clinton *	1822	...	7	1	2	12	...	...	358	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Consider Parish.
2. Lexington, South *	1845	...	3	1	...	9	...	...	296	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Edgar M. Richardson.
3. Newton *	1845	...	5	...	...	10	...	...	408	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	James M. Richardson.
4. Texas *	1854	...	5	...	...	5	...	...	89	..	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Daniel C. Henderson.

II. Of the Synods.

SYNODS.	Date.	Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Added on Exam.	Added on Certif.	Communicants.	Adult Baptisms.	Infant Baptisms.	General Assembly.	Domestic Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Publication.
1. Albany	1803	5	84	3	7	70	366	145	8,257	124	156	$184.01	$1,571.63	$3,045.64	$791.22	$2,290.57
2. Utica	1829	4	65	5	9	72	219	158	7,106	60	99	263.35	1,258.19	2,082.42	2,175.10	1,989.77
3. Geneva	1812	6	109	4	13	93	354	226	9,725	145	151	200.89	2,222.01	1,980.89	1,980.64	2,398.51
4. Onondaga	1855	4	80	16	12	70	305	203	7,769	124	174	339.78	3,433.12	3,003.89	2,340.04	2,303.01
5. Susquehanna	1853	3	42	...	3	51	100	62	3,989	30	59	88.84	860.30	957.06	217.16	248.48
6. Genesee	1821	6	125	4	3	108	649	446	12,371	250	237	305.08	6,317.26	4,900.01	6,116.45	6,927.38
7. N. York and N. Jersey	1788	9	226	25	73	155	2262	1067	24,905	610	795	1265.10	26,505.06	24,281.45	10,850.30	9,415.01
8. Pennsylvania	1838	4	81	5	29	69	1201	324	11,179	419	533	564.57	19,844.34	4,839.65	4,417.07	24,971.80
9. West Pennsylvania	1843	3	21	...	2	37	244	83	2,850	53	96	123.50	1,036.11	789.43	391.35	396.64
10. Michigan	1834	9	81	1	12	101	574	439	7,745	164	268	248.08	2,759.93	3,358.37	895.25	1,649.37
11. Western Reserve	1825	7	108	3	22	89	323	211	6,113	113	202	236.10	2,715.51	3,529.94	1,878.65	2,163.89
12. Ohio	1814	4	53	4	6	74	381	140	4,656	105	184	125.50	1,464.69	1,404.96	1,226.37	955.30
13. Cincinnati	1829	3	41	12	1	37	229	74	2,691	54	82	113.60	7,558.61	2,951.32	2,381.25	873.00
14. Indiana	1826	4	43	1	12	62	393	212	3,459	128	146	155.70	1,629.22	1,177.05	1,106.56	456.13
15. Wabash	1851	4	34	3	3	58	266	106	2.709	94	95	60.60	579.34	293.00	185.52	99.00
16. Illinois	1831	4	63	1	8	81	310	237	4,010	87	110	162.93	1,721.46	1,624.14	15,809.30	1,207.05
17. Peoria	1843	8	96	3	22	78	490	638	4,289	148	186	162.70	5,612.81	3,865.02	1,470.13	1,792.38
18. Wisconsin	1857	3	32	1	1	25	150	236	1,131	32	82	46.49	849.18	95.54	348.50	48.73
19. Iowa	1853	5	41	...	10	62	309	281	1,974	75	105	104.85	500.45	356.92	1,071.01	406.50
20. Alta California	1857	3	14	...	...	10	3	25	345	...	26					
21. Missouri	1832	4	40	2	4	57	...	...	2,290							
22. Virginia	1788	4	37	7	7	49	...	...	4,173							
23. Kentucky	1802	3	13	...	...	21	...	...	1,028							
24. Tennessee	1817	4	44	...	14	84	...	...	5,286							
25. West Tennessee	1826	3	19	...	2	38	...	...	2,209							
26. Mississippi	1846	4	20	2	2	36	...	...	1,151							
		120	1612	102	277	1687	9128	5313	143,510	2815	3786	$4751.59	$88,439.22	$64,536.70	$55,651.87	$60,592.52

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